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Whose side is the Russian army on? page 16



How to make your cat love you page 3



Plus: Magnus Linklater and Anatole Kaletsky page 20

Doubt over loyalty of armed forces

Russia 'faces worse crisis than in 1917'

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S economic crisis took a dangerous political turn yesterday when Aleksandr Lebed, the gruff presidential hopeful, told President Clinton that the country faced a greater threat than in 1917 on the eve of the Bolshevik Revolution.

For the first time since the crisis began, commentators were talking more about the loyalty of the military rather than the rouble and the stock market. The immediate issue is the conflict between President Yeltsin and the Duma over his nomination of Viktor Chernomyrdin as Prime Minister.

But in a warning which was echoed by other politicians and in press reports, General Lebed, the Governor of the Krasnoyarsk region in Siberia, told Mr Clinton that the economic collapse and political stalemate in Russia was now catastrophic.

In 1917 Russia was fighting the First World War and there were six million men under arms. "The situation is worse than in 1917. Now we have huge stockpiles of poorly guarded nuclear weapons," said the former paratroop general, who was among opposition leaders meeting Mr Clinton on the final day of his visit. "The mood is such that we must do something to get out of this situation. And if Yeltsin falls, that will mean Clinton's fall as well."

Mr Clinton told the opposition leaders, at the last meeting on his agenda in Russia

before flying to Ireland: "I hope you will be able to bridge your differences to agree first on a programme to stabilise the current situation." Mr Clinton assured Mr Yeltsin he could count on fresh aid if Russia shows it will complete its free-market reforms.

Although prone to alarmist rhetoric, General Lebed's description of the explosive situation in Russia was reflected on the front page of the normally sober Kommersant Daily.

Under a headline "Zyug-

INSIDE

Lebed is right: the old is dying and the new has not yet been born

Norman Stone... 20 Drums of war... 16 Leading article, letters... 21

anov ready for war" it said that the communist leader had decided to fight his power struggle with the Kremlin to the end and was ready if necessary to use force.

Boris Bertozovsky, Russia's most influential businessman whose shadowy role is blamed for precipitating the crisis, also made a dire prediction. "A riot is something nobody wants," he told a Moscow radio station. "It will sweep away everyone - all the political forces. Nobody will

care about the opposition, which is also impotent now, or individual leaders. People whose names we do not know will come to power."

While there is no sign today of the crisis turning violent, the most obvious scenario would be a repeat of the bloody scenes in October 1993, when Mr Yeltsin used tanks to blast his opponents in parliament. The Duma, the lower house of parliament, is once again dominated by communist and nationalist opposition parties, and yesterday it intensified its open campaign to oust the Kremlin leader.

On Monday it rejected his nomination of Mr Chernomyrdin as Prime Minister and said that the second hearing would take place tomorrow when his appointment would be blocked again. There are also moves by some deputies to initiate impeachment proceedings against Mr Yeltsin for breaking up the Soviet Union and ordering the bloody war in Chechnya.

The longer the battle for the formation of a new Government is drawn out the harder it will be for Russia to set about tackling the pressing economic problems which have left the banking sector and stock exchange frozen and the rouble in a steady decline. IMF officials are predicting that the next tranche of \$4.3 billion (£2.5 billion) in aid to Russia, due in two weeks, is unlikely to be even considered "until October or possibly later".



Prince Harry waves to the crowd as he arrives for his first day at Eton yesterday

Royal Princes appeal for mother to be left in peace

By ALAN HAMILTON

A YEAR after the death of their mother, Prince William and Prince Harry yesterday issued a rare personal appeal to ask that she be left in peace and that there be an end to public commemoration and grieving.

The statement, read by the Princes' spokeswoman to reporters watching Prince Harry's arrival for his first day at Eton, poignantly and forcefully made clear that constant reminders of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, could create nothing but pain for the family she left behind.

Sandy Henney, the St James's Palace spokeswoman, said the statement had been issued at the express wish of the boys, who had been working on its wording since the weekend.

In it, they acknowledge that public sympathy at the time of their mother's death had greatly comforted them, but that the Princess herself would have wanted people now to move on. Their appeal was aimed not only at the media, which covered the anniversary exhaustively, but at the public, the souvenir industry and its sometimes tasteless unofficial artefacts, and undoubtedly also at Mohamed Al Fayed, who still pursues his conspiracy theory.

The Princes' statement said in full: "Throughout the last year, since the death of their mother, Prince William and Prince Harry have been comforted enormously by the public sympathy and support they have been given: it has meant a great deal to them and they have asked me to express their thanks once again to everyone. They have also asked me to say that they believe their mother would want people now to move on - because she

would have known that constant reminders of her death can create nothing but pain to those she left behind.

"They therefore hope, very much, that their mother and her memory will now finally be allowed to rest in peace."

The sentiments of the statement were brought immediately to life as Prince Harry arrived at Manor House, opposite the main school buildings, to be greeted by Dr Andrew Gaisley, his new housemaster, and Shauna, his wife, who will act in loco parentis as they have done for Prince William.

Three years ago, at the same time and in the same place, William arrived at Eton accompanied by both his estranged parents. Yesterday Harry was accompanied only by the Prince of Wales and a police driver.

As their Vauxhall Estate drew up, Harry, wearing a light sports jacket and grey trousers, emerged from the back seat with his father, smiled at the massed ranks of cameras and gave a small wave.

He seemed entirely in control of the occasion.

The Prince and his father were taken inside to be shown his quarters, a bedchamber that he can decorate with his choice of posters and pictures, and to meet Elizabeth Heathcote, his "dame", who will make his bed, tidy his room and attend to his laundry. Like all the other boys, he will address her as "Ma'am".

After half an hour, the prince emerged in teeming rain, shielded by the umbrellas of his father and housemaster, stopped briefly with another smile for the cameras, and walked to the

Continued on page 2, col 4

Blair's view on News at Ten

Tony Blair is opposed to moving the time of News at Ten to 6.30.

The Prime Minister's spokesman said Mr Blair would find it "regrettable" if the proposal were to lead downmarket. Page 8

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Global raid nets paedophile ring

By ADAM FRESKO

DETECTIVES investigating an international paedophile ring based on the Internet made dozens of arrests in 12 countries yesterday and seized hundreds of thousands of indecent images of children. Those arrested were allegedly members of Wonderland, a secret Internet club for paedophiles all over the world, based in the United States. Members, who had to be invited to join and were given passwords, often filmed their own pornography and sent it to the club. At least one of the 11 men arrested in this country was suspected of being a producer of the images.

The global police operation, codenamed Cathedral, was coordinated by the National Crime Squad in London and was the biggest international police operation led by this country. Officers raided suspects' houses simultaneously in Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Finland, Austria, Belgium and America.

More than 40 people, including women, were arrested when officers searched more than 100 addresses at Sam British time.

The 11 arrests in Britain were made by forces across the country, including four in London. Child protection officers accompanied police on all the raids in case they found any children who were being abused or were in danger.

The two main computers storing the images in America have been closed and the organisers arrested. But officers fear that the website could have been copied and might start up again with a different name and different code words.

Bob Packham, deputy director-general of the National Crime Squad, said police were hoping eventually to trace and provide help for the thousands of children involved all over the world.

Hiding on the Net, page 3

Rothermere of the Mail dies at 73

By CAROL MIDDLEY AND RAYMOND SNODDY

One of Britain's most influential national newspaper groups faced new uncertainty last night after the sudden death of Viscount Rothermere, the last of the great press barons.

The 73-year-old chairman of the Daily Mail and General Trust, publishers of the Daily Mail, died on Tuesday evening of a heart attack after dining with his 30-year-old son, Jonathan, in London.

His death comes less than three months after Sir David English, chairman of the group's national newspaper division, Associated Newspapers, died of a stroke.

Together the two men had virtually recreated the newspaper middle market in Britain and left the once-mighty Daily Express trailing.

Unassuming heir, page 5 Obituary, page 23 Family control, page 25 Commentary, page 27

Trimble set to meet Adams after new peace gesture by Sinn Fein

By PHILIP WEBSTER AND MARTIN FLETCHER

THE pace of the Northern Ireland peace process quickened last night with clear indications that David Trimble is poised to hold a face-to-face meeting with Gerry Adams, the first between the leaders of Unionism and Republicanism.

News of the likely encounter, expected to take place late next week, broke hours after Sinn Fein took another dramatic step away from its violent past by naming Martin McGuinness as its representative to the international body on paramilitary disarmament. It also came as Tony Blair, addressing the Commons as it debated emergency anti-terrorist laws, told the Omagh bombers that they had failed in their bid to wreck the Good Friday peace accord.

In a day of fast-moving events, before President Clinton's arrival in Belfast today, James Fisher and Mark Wright, the two Scots Guardsmen jailed for life for shooting

a Belfast youth in 1992, were freed in a surprise move by Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary.

MPs at Westminster were sitting late to approve the new laws cracking down on terrorist splinter groups, including the Real IRA, which has admitted the Omagh bombing. Although the Bill is certain to be passed eventually, the Government faced fierce criticism from MPs of all parties for its alleged haste at tabling the legislation and, the decision to widen it to stop people conspiring in Britain to commit terrorism elsewhere.

Tony Benn accused the Government of treating Parliament as a rubber-stamp, just like the Supreme Soviet summoned to carry out the will of the Communist Central Committee. About 16 Labour MPs rebelled against the motion cutting short the debate.

But the Prime Minister condemned the Omagh bombing as "a deliberate attempt by a

small group of extremists, with no moral or political support, to wreck the Good Friday agreement".

He defended the package to tackle terrorism as a "proportionate and targeted response to deal with small and evil groups of violent men who seek to wreck the hopes for peace which the great majority yearn for and have voted for".

He told the bombers directly: "You sought to wreck the agreement, and you have failed. You sought to divide the community, and you failed. You sought to win new support, and you failed.

"You failed because violence and terror represent the past in Northern Ireland, and democracy and peace represent the future."

The series of carefully planned moves to maintain the momentum of the peace process came on the eve of Mr Clinton's arrival in Belfast this morning. Mr Adams announced the appointment of

Mr McGuinness to the decommissioning body just one day after he all but declared Northern Ireland's 30-year conflict to be over. Yesterday, he said: "The issue of arms must be finally and satisfactorily settled."

The Sinn Fein president coupled his statement with a demand that all parties now speedily and fully implement the Good Friday accord - a clear reference to the Unionists' refusal to admit his party to Northern Ireland's new executive without proof of its commitment to non-violence.

Mr Trimble called the announcement a "sensible move in the right direction which is long overdue", but added: "We shall now see by their actions whether they are sincere about ending violence for good."

But Unionists said Mr Trimble may now take the

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Leading article and Letters, page 21

Are you ready to challenge convention?



Mercedes-Benz

Perverts used Internet to hide from law

WONDERLAND, the worldwide Internet club for paedophiles that sparked dozens of arrests yesterday, was a "secretive and professional" website set up in America. It used a sophisticated network of codes and passwords to protect its obscene images from discovery by the authorities.

It was only when officers in Sussex, working on behalf of US Customs, seized two computer databases during a separate inquiry that they discovered the club's existence. Once they realised the nature of the website in April this year, they passed the investigation on to the National Crime Squad. As they began to break through the security measures of the databases, NCS officers found some of the names and addresses that were raided yesterday.

Anyone wanting to join the club had to be invited by an existing member of the group, which at one time numbered almost 200 people in over 20 countries. They also had to prove that they possessed more than 10,000 separate images of children, some as young as two, and were willing to share them. The images had to be different from the hundreds of thousands already stored in the Wonderland database, so existing members would benefit from the new members. The system automatically rejected any images already stored. In effect, the club was a vast library of paedophile material which members could browse, copy and keep.

Yesterday morning, au-

Police had to call in computer experts to crack paedophiles' website, reports Adam Fresco

authorities raided 32 addresses in America, 16 in Italy, 18 in Germany, 14 in England, eight in Norway, four in France, three in Portugal, three in Belgium, two in Finland, two in Australia, one in Austria and one in Sweden. Another ten countries which did not take part in the operation are gathering their own intelligence and are expected to carry out raids and arrests in the coming days.

Before the arrests were carried out in this country, the suspects were kept under surveillance to establish whether they were also abusing children. Bob Packham, deputy director-general of the NCS, said that the activities of the ring had left a "horrendous legacy of abused children around the world." He said that officers would have to sift through the thousands of images to try to identify the children.

Detectives called in computer experts to help them to gain access to the two databases originally seized: they have already found more than 40,000 different images of children on them. The biggest ever seizure in this country

before was 10,000 images. Detective Superintendent John Stewardson, who led the operation, said yesterday: "I am confident this operation has targeted the hard core of individuals engaged upon Internet paedophile activity around the world. The images that we have seized are really disgusting, horrendous. It would turn the stomach of any right minded person."

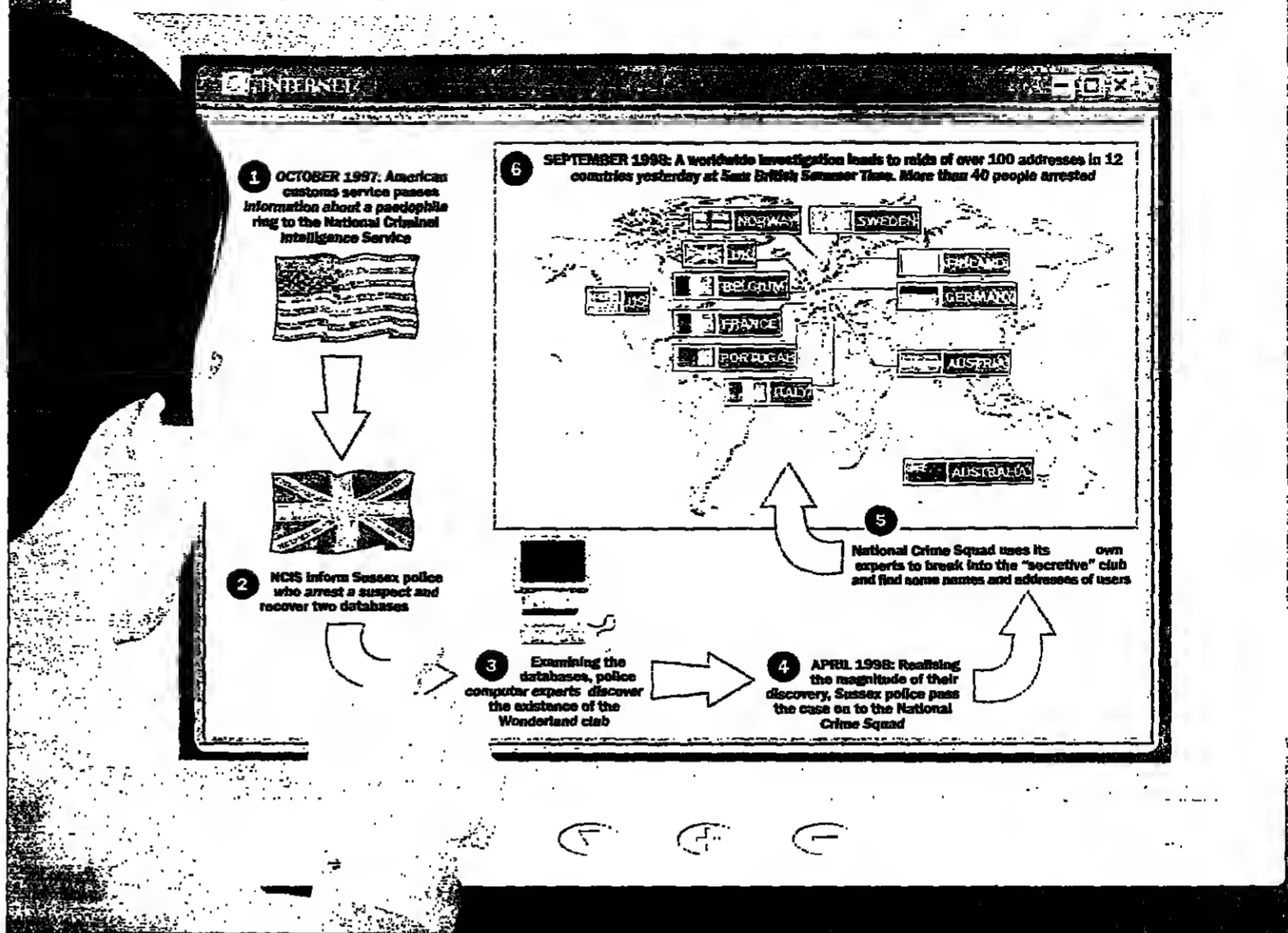
The organisation was very organised and went to great lengths to keep their operation a secret. This sort of sophistication has never been encountered before. For the most part these people are very gifted in their computer skills so we have had to bring in computer experts to get into the databases.

"We have recovered ten computer systems from this country this morning and our computer experts will be finding out what they contain. The searches are continuing today and we are confident that more arrests will follow."

"People who engage in this type of depraved activity have felt relatively secure up until now in the knowledge that the Internet is virtually unpoliced. They have been able to continue their practices with impunity but this worldwide operation has demonstrated that that is no longer the case."

Mr Packham added: "No other police operation has pulled together so many police agencies worldwide for so many raids and arrests. It has been a difficult and distressing investigation and I hope that our actions have prevented further abuse of children across the world."

HOW OPERATION CATHEDRAL BROKE THE WONDERLAND CLUB



Secretive routes on the superhighway

By NICHOLAS BOOTH

ALL that is required to exchange paedophile images and information on the Internet is the type of computer you can buy in your local electronics shop, some commonly available software to encrypt your data and a great deal of determination.

It doesn't cost that much — at most a few thousand pounds — to set up, it does not require sustained funding and for secretive groups its anonymity is ideal. Paedophiles can exchange

information and photographs, knowing that it is almost impossible for others to know what is being exchanged. Policing, in the traditional sense, is almost impossible on even the slowest routes on the information superhighway.

"It is very difficult to monitor this sort of activity," said Edward Wilding, a consultant at Network Security in London. "If you send information between two sites in a secure way, it is impossible to track the information."

According to David Kerr, director of the Cambridge-based Internet Watch Foundation, his organisation has found 2,000 reports of illegal paedophile activity on the web last year. They are not contained on websites, rather "newsgroups", the equivalent of electronic bulletin boards where people can share information on anything and everything.

Like a cyberspace version of swapping stamps or matchboxes, almost anything can be shared via the Internet. "There are perhaps 40 newsgroups

out of an estimated total of 40,000 that regularly contain illegal material," Mr Kerr said. "Estimating the actual amount of child pornography on the web is next to impossible."

The foundation was set up by the British net industry at the request of police and the previous Conservative Government to report cases of child pornography. It relies on users of the net to report examples of possible paedophile activity. The author is deputy editor of The Times Interface section.

BBC invites murder suspects to tell all

By ADRIAN LEE

THE five young men suspected of the racist killing of Stephen Lawrence are considering an offer from the BBC to take part in a documentary about the case.

Martin Bashir, who interviewed Diana, Princess of Wales and the former air pair Louise Woodward, has asked them to appear in a *Panorama* programme to be screened in the autumn. Negotiations are continuing.

The five — Jamie and Neil Acourt, David Norris, Gary Dobson and Luke Knight — have sought advice from the publicist Max Clifford. They say they are innocent of killing Stephen at a bus

stop in Eitham, southeast London, five years ago. At an inquest into his death they refused to answer questions and, during a recent public inquiry, the terms of interrogation by lawyers for the Lawrence family were limited.

A BBC source said yesterday: "The programme seeks to get to the heart of the Lawrence case and they are obviously a key part of it."

If the men agree to be interviewed, they will receive no advance warning of questions. The programme makers said the interview would form only part of the show and that Mr Lawrence's parents had also been approached.

Rapist stalking women at night

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

A SERIAL rapist is believed to be responsible for at least six attacks on young women. A team of crime analysts have linked the attacks, which took place in the Nuneaton and South Birmingham over the past two years.

Detectives from the West Midlands and Warwickshire forces launched a joint investigation yesterday, while house-to-house inquiries continue in Nuneaton, the scene of the latest attack.

Four of the attacks were full rapes and two were serious sexual assaults. The women were attacked in the early hours of the morning while walking home. Some of the victims, aged 17 to 21, were tied up and blindfolded, and it is thought the man may have stalked his victims beforehand. Police believe

that he knows the areas well and could have lived at some time in either location.

He is believed to have first struck in Nuneaton in June 1996. A student, aged 17, was raped on a disused railway embankment after being dragged into an alley as she made her way home from the town's bus station. Further attacks in the Yardley, Scily Oak, Bourville and Frankley areas of Birmingham followed before the latest rape of an 18-year-old as she walked home from a nightclub in Nuneaton in May this year.

Three of the victims were bound with their hands behind their backs and blindfolded before being either raped or sexually assaulted. The man is described as white and aged 18 to 45. Peter Furnace, Assistant

Chief Constable of Warwickshire, who is leading the investigation, said: "During some of these attacks the whole experience was made more terrifying because he was wearing a balaclava."

"The main point of the investigation at the moment is that the man would appear to have definite ties to the Nuneaton and/or south Birmingham areas. The circumstances of the attacks are such that it is clear women who are walking around late at night in that area are at risk. Until we catch this rapist there is always the chance he will strike again."

He said it was possible that other attacks had not been reported, and urged any other victims to contact the police as they could have vital information.

Woman shot as she escaped from crash

By SIMON DE BRUNELLES

DRINKERS at a quiet country pub who ran to help victims of a car crash were confronted by a man with a sawn-off shotgun who shot the female passenger as they led her to safety.

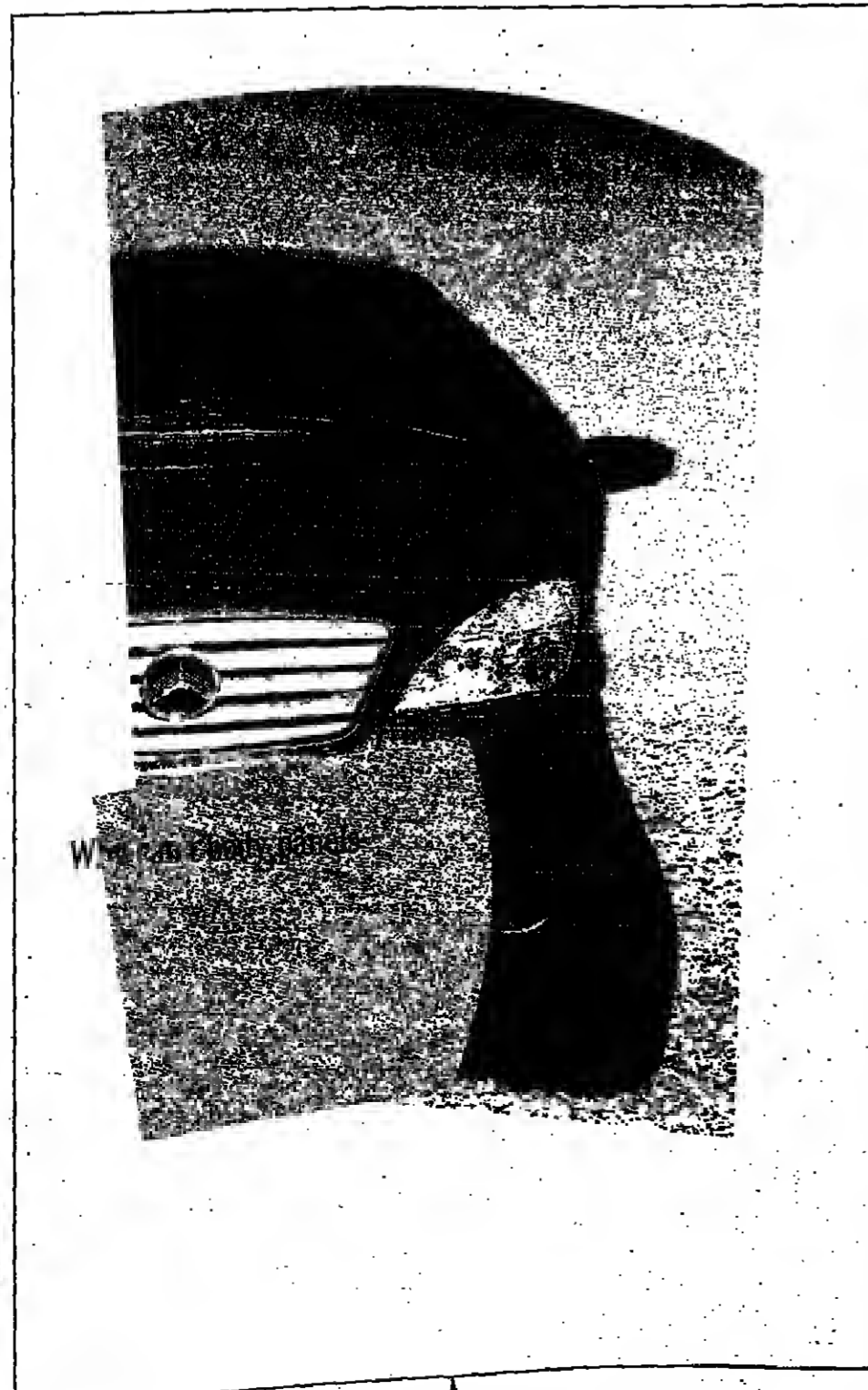
The victim, who was being treated last night for multiple wounds, had earlier been kidnapped in Weston-super-Mare. Christine Shopland, 38, was crossing the road outside the Rozel Hotel, where she is head housekeeper, when a car screeched to a halt and its driver ordered her into the passenger seat at gunpoint.

He drove away at high speed, dragging her back into the vehicle

when she tried to escape at traffic lights. After three hours on the road, the car crashed as they approached the isolated Castle of Comfort pub on the Mendip Hills. Police said the woman grabbed the steering wheel, causing the car to spin out of control.

Detective Chief Inspector Tracy Hayler, of Avon and Somerset police, said the customers, who included an off-duty policewoman, managed to overpower the man and get the gun away from him. "We have only praise for their cool-headedness and quick thinking."

A man was being detained last night at Yeovil police station.



Harvey Ball, of Massachusetts, with his 1963 face

Happy face is no smiling matter

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

AN INTERNATIONAL dispute has arisen over who owns Smiley, the ubiquitous yellow "feel-good" symbol with dots for eyes and an upward-curving smile.

For more than 30 years the face has been used throughout the world to promote everything from soap and cosmetics to computer games and kitchen utensils.

To 1980s students Smiley is probably best known as the symbol of LSD-taking at acid house dance parties and was widely seen on drugs-related posters in student lodgings.

But Franklin Loufrani, a Parisian entrepreneur, has applied to register Smiley as a European Community trademark, which would give him exclusive rights to use the face on a huge range of goods.

Conventional wisdom in the United States has it that Smiley was created by the commercial artist Harvey Ball of Worcester, Massachusetts, back in 1963. He had been commissioned by a local

insurance company to design an in-house happiness icon to boost staff morale.

But Mr Loufrani, 55, claims he is the creator. He registered Smiley as a trademark in France in 1971 and is now reported to own the mark in more than 80 countries and to have made many millions of dollars from it.

He is being opposed, however, by a Japanese underwear manufacturer, Gunze, which also claims ownership. It says the yellow badge was invented by one of its employees in 1989 and that the company registered it as a trademark in Japan.

Roger Sudbury, a solicitor with the City law firm Richards Butler who is acting for a company with an interest in the Japanese side of the dispute, said he would be opposing the trademark application. "It is such a universally recognised image as a symbol of cheerfulness that it cannot be a trademark for anyone," he added.

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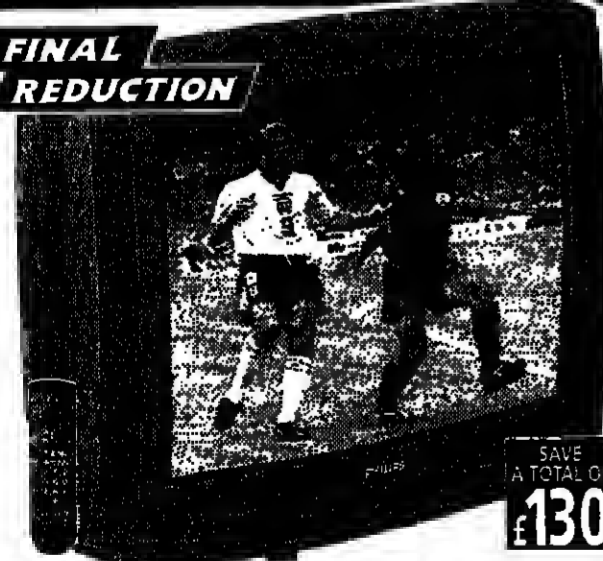
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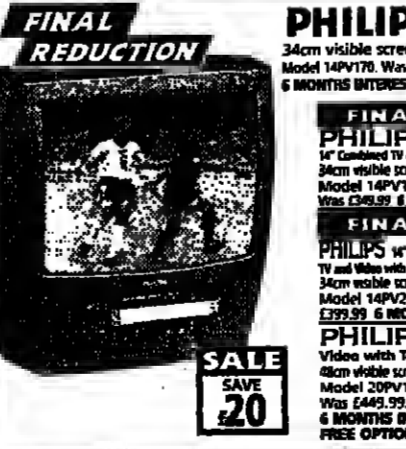
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صكذ من الأهل

Widow will inherit a fortune from the press baron who worshipped her



Lord Rothermere's first wife, known as Bubbles

By CAROL MIDGLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

MAIKO LEE was Viscount Rothermere's wife for just five years. But the fact that she had been a constant companion and pivotal force in his life for the past two decades was an open secret.

On Tuesday night she became one of Britain's wealthiest widows, but lost a husband whom friends said "worshipped the ground she walked on". A former international model, she was born in Japan to Korean parents and Lord Rothermere was said to have been captivated by her exotic good looks when they first met in a Paris club

in 1978. He and his first wife, Patricia, known to friends as Bubbles and to whom he was married for 35 years, had led increasingly separate lives up until 1992, when she died of an accidental overdose of sleeping pills.

He never concealed the fact that Miss Lee, 49, lived as his mistress in Paris (he has a rented apartment on the Ile St Louis, in the middle of the Seine) while his wife lived in London, and she would sit openly at his side at the top table during official dinners.

Friends say she exerted a formidable influence on the newspaper baron and was one of the few people who dared to say when she

thought he was wrong. "He would consult her on business matters all the time," said a source. "He respected her opinion and she was privy to virtually all his decisions."

"Maiko is a very independent-minded woman. She has a taste for the finer things in life, like expensive food and clothes, but she is by no means a meek, obedient 'shopping' wife."

Although they had no children, both shared an affection for dogs. Their much-loved Japanese akita, Ryu-ma, attended their wedding in Paris in 1993 wearing a red silk bow around his neck.

Such was Lord Rothermere's devotion to his second wife, that

once, during a dinner with Tony Blair before the 1997 general election, he pressed the Labour leader repeatedly about his policy on British quarantine laws—a subject close to Lady Rothermere's heart. She is said to have leaving her dog behind whenever she visits Britain.

Yesterday Lady Rothermere was at London's Connaught Hotel with her step-children, Jonathan, Geraldine and Camilla, where arrangements for the funeral were being discussed. She had been in France when Lord Rothermere was suddenly taken ill after dinner at his son's house in London.

The couple do not have a property in Britain, always preferring to

stay at an hotel, usually Claridge's. They had, however, an apartment in New York and recently bought a huge country house in the Perigord, which Lord Rothermere had recently remarked he was "beginning to think of as home."

Sources say Lady Rothermere has been generously provided for in his will. The late Lord Rothermere is listed jointly with Richard Branson as the 14th richest man in Britain, worth £1 billion.

Lady Rothermere is expected to continue in her capacity as President of the International Friends of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Lord Memuhin said that he recruited her to the job because she was

particularly suited. "She was born in Japan of Korean parents, so the whole of Asia is her territory. New York is one of her favourite cities and, of course, she loves the old world too: Paris, London and Salzburg, where we met," Lord Memuhin said.

The irony that Lord Rothermere's former lifestyle, with a mistress in one country and a wife in another, was perfect fodder for the pages of the *Daily Mail* was not lost on industry observers. But for him, it was nobody's business but his own.

In a recent interview he ventured that his family set-up had been no different from half the families in Britain.

Rothermere crown for unassuming heir

By RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

THE most dangerous moment for press dynasties is when the new generation takes over. The 3rd Viscount Rothermere, who died suddenly on Tuesday evening, served a 20-year apprenticeship in every nook and cranny of the *Daily Mail* empire — including some so humble that he earned the nickname "Mere Vere" before becoming chairman at 46.

His son, Jonathan, will now be catapulted into the top job without warning at the age of 30 and with, most think, his education in newspaper professionalism as yet incomplete. "Pleasant" and "unassuming" are the words people first reach for to describe Jonathan Harmsworth, now the fourth Viscount Rothermere, and the man who must take on responsibility of running the *Daily Mail* and General Trust.

Newspaper cuttings hint only modestly at the grooming process to prepare him for his dynastic destiny in charge of a newspaper group founded more than a century ago.

Yet his father, during his excruciatingly long apprenticeship, was similarly not expected to achieve much. Those who know Jonathan Harmsworth say that he should not be written off. They detect many of his father's characteristics, such as canny and determination.

Jonathan's conventional education took place at Gordonstoun and at Duke University in North Carolina, but his real

education, closely supervised by his father, has been aimed at preparing him for the lonely role of newspaper proprietor.

His experience has ranged from weekly newspapers during school holidays to the *International Herald Tribune* in Paris and the *Daily Record* in Glasgow. At the *Record* he was a reporter and a sub-editor and learnt about newspaper promotions.

There was also a stint at one of Associated Newspapers' regional titles in Tunbridge Wells before he moved on to the group's headquarters in London, first as deputy managing director and later as managing director of the *Evening Standard*.

It is likely that at the next board meeting of the *Daily Mail* and General Trust, the company that controls the *Daily Mail*, *The Mail on Sunday* and the *Evening Stan-*



Jonathan Harmsworth: taking on a lonely role

ard, Jonathan Harmsworth will become chairman.

His catapulting into the top job by the death of his father has probably come a year or two early. But he is surrounded by his team of young managers to help him and the three most influential executives at the company, Charles Sinclair, the chief executive,

Murdoch McClelland, the managing director of Associated Newspapers, and Paul Dacre, editor-in-chief, can be expected to close ranks around him.

The pressure will be intensified by the fact that the death of Lord Rothermere comes only two months after the equally sudden death of his friend and colleague of 40 years, Sir David English, chairman of Associated Newspapers.

The newspaper legacy that Jonathan Harmsworth has been left is an impressive one. As Vere Rothermere was fond of saying, he took over two ailing newspapers — the *Daily Mail* and the *Daily Sketch* — and created three strong ones: a revitalised *Mail* that has long surpassed *The Express*, *The Mail on Sunday* and the *Standard*.

His way of investing in newspapers was a decidedly dynastic one — he invested for the long term and stuck with the long term and stuck with *The Mail on Sunday* for a decade before it started to become a dominant force in the middle market on Sunday.

Even as Jonathan Harmsworth starts to face up to problems that would have started the first Lord Rothermere, such as 200-channel television and the Internet, the dynastic future of the company has been secured.

A son was born to Jonathan and Claudia Harmsworth in 1994. They called him Vere.

Obituary, page 23

THE TRIBUTES

Tony Blair: "He was an extraordinary man and underneath that very bluff exterior was a keen mind and a very kind personality. I grew to value his company and his conversation, and his basic decency." William Hague: "Those of us fortunate enough to have known him will also remember him for his warmth and humanity." Baroness Thatcher: "He was one of the great figures in the British newspaper industry this century, and his papers reflected a strong sense of Britain's values and traditions." Rupert Murdoch: "I mourn the death of a very good friend... This

is a tremendous loss for the media industry... He was an outstanding publisher with a sure touch; his absence will be keenly felt as a stalwart defender of our freedoms..." Jeremy Deedes (managing director of the Telegraph group): "Lord Rothermere's greatest tribute are his three national newspapers that survive him. They all three dominate their markets was, in a large part, down to his foresight, persistence and vision." Alan Rusbridger (Editor of *The Guardian*): "He understood about investing in journalism... He enjoyed the company of journalists and defended their work."



Viscount Rothermere and his second wife, Maiko Lee. They met at a Paris club

Editor will have task of maintaining momentum

By BRIAN MACARTHUR

THE success of the *Daily Mail* was founded on the umbilical relationship between Viscount Rothermere and Sir David English. Above all, Rothermere had an almost messianic belief that it was the quality of their journalism that made good newspapers. "The journalists run everything and the managers do what we tell them," Sir David often boasted.

The most profound question now for Associated Newspapers is whether Jonathan Harmsworth can form the same relationship with Paul Dacre, the editor of the *Daily Mail* who was English's chosen heir as editor, and Rothermere's chosen heir to English as editor-in-chief of the *Mail*, *Mail on Sunday* and *Evening Standard*.

There will be anxiety that the new Lord Rothermere has inherited too early at the age of 30, but he has had a thorough grounding in newspapers.

He will, however, have to rely on Mr Dacre — the new editorial elder statesman of Northcliffe House and the most powerful editor in Britain — to maintain the momentum achieved during his father's era.

Mr Dacre, 49, is crucial to the continuing success of Associated Newspapers, one of Britain's strongest media companies. He is a driven man who works 14-hour days and expects the same commitment from his staff. As editor, his success has been even greater than Sir David's.

Vertical advertisements on the left margin including 'SAVE', 'AMAZING NEW ASMA', and 'JUTTY'.

Advertisement for Asprey & Garrard jewelry featuring a diamond ring and the text 'Just Married.' and 'Asprey & Garrard'.

Advertisement for Cheltenham & Gloucester Mortgage Direct with the headline 'CAP YOUR MORTGAGE UNTIL 2002 6.79% 7.1% APR HASSLE FREE' and contact information.

The Eurofighter weathers storm over Typhoon

By DANIEL MCGROARY

THE makers of the Eurofighter, having overcome German objections to their choice of name for the combat jet, officially named it the Typhoon yesterday.

The Germans, who are among the four European partners producing and buying the plane, were not happy about calling it after an RAF fighter that caused them massive devastation in the Second World War. As a compromise, ministers agreed that the Germans should ignore the catchy name British Aerospace plans to use in its export sales pitch and call it simply the Eurofighter. As part of the deal the air forces of Britain, Italy and Spain will do the same.

As the jet was put through its paces for the cameras at Farnborough yesterday, Brian Phillipson, managing director of the Eurofighter company, denied there was a row over the name among the partners. "We got agreement very, very quickly," he said, pointing out that Typhoon was also the name for a German Messerschmitt Me180, "so the name has a very proud history".

This did not explain why a lavish naming ceremony planned for March was hastily cancelled because of rumours of German recalcitrance.

A senior RAF officer said last night: "We have no input into what it's called, that is down to the plane's makers. But we can see how the



Typhoon: traditionally British style of name

Germans would be sensitive. The Typhoon was responsible for a lot of German casualties in the last two years of the war."

Richard Simpson, keeper of aircraft at the RAF Museum in Hendon, said: "The Germans did not like this suggestion at all, but the British always like to call planes after violent weather systems, like Tornado and Hurricane. Salesmen need catchy names and obviously they think Typhoon will seduce foreign buyers."

The RAF is taking 232 Eurofighters and the Government has invested £15 billion in the project, which will safeguard 80,000 jobs. The Germans have ordered 180 jets, Italy 120 and Spain 87, but the manufacturers expect to sell more than 800 planes

worth more than £70 billion.

Mr Phillipson said: "We wanted a name that we all felt was appropriate for the product, for the guys who were flying it and for the export market. It is a name that conveys the right sort of image. It was just something we were all happy with."

The only other option offered for the European allies' consideration was the Tempest. A final meeting last month preferred the original suggestion, Typhoon.

The wartime version was a ground attack fighter that flew hundreds of missions destroying German tanks, rail installations and artillery positions, as well as strafing its infantry. It was the first RAF fighter that could fly faster than 400mph and the only one that could catch the Luftwaffe's Focke-Wulf 190, which specialised in low-level attacks across the South of England.

Design work on the Hawker Typhoon began in 1937 and it first flew in 1940. It came into its own "suppressing" enemy defences during the 1944 D-Day landings.

The plane was also a success in decimating what was left of the transport infrastructure in Northern Germany, causing widespread civilian casualties and attacking Panzer divisions at Caen and the Falaise gap. "Cab rank" patrols were mounted so that they could be called in by ground forces to attack German gun positions. The plane's thick wings allowed it to carry two 1,000lb



Under wraps: Cadets from the ATC stand guard over the Eurofighter before its official unveiling at Farnborough in Hampshire yesterday

bombs as well as four 20mm cannon and eight 60lb rockets.

The Ministry of Defence said last night it was "quite happy with the name, though frankly pilots don't care what it is called as long as it does the job".

Second World War pilots habitually called the Typhoons "Tiffies", although present RAF fighter pilots have nicknamed it after a brand of teabag. One said last night: "We hope it doesn't get as many perforations and sink as fast."



Take-off: the original Typhoon, which first flew nearly 60 years ago, and the latest version at Farnborough

If most side impacts happen here

615 LDR

13 CMS ABOVE GROUND A unique sandwich floor cleverly concealing fuel tank, battery and exhaust system.

25 CMS ABOVE GROUND Average seat height in ordinary cars also common point of impact

60 CMS ABOVE GROUND Mercedes A-class passengers safely seated

Daimler-Benz has developed the first-ever fuel cell car to use methanol as the fuel. Based on the Mercedes A-class, the revolutionary new vehicle represents a decisive breakthrough in the quest to develop a drive system with extremely low emissions.

The car, known as NECAR3 (New Electric Car), fills up with liquid methanol. With the aid of a reformer system located in the rear of the vehicle, the methanol is converted on-line into hydrogen through water-vapour reformation. The hydrogen gas is then fed into the fuel cells where it is combined with atmospheric oxygen - but without combustion - to directly produce electrical energy used to power the vehicle.

Previous fuel cell systems could only operate in conjunction with bulky hydrogen tanks for fuel storage. With NECAR3, the entire process is much more direct: press the accelerator pedal and an astonishing 90 percent of the system's power is available in just two seconds. In terms of driving dynamics, this puts fuel cell vehicles using methanol on a par with conventional petrol or diesel-powered cars.

Dispensing with the hydrogen tanks not only reduces vehicle weight, but it also greatly improves the everyday practicality of the new vehicle: petrol stations can theoretically handle methanol, which doesn't require special safety measures, nearly as easily as petrol or diesel. What's more, NECAR3 has a range of some 250 miles on a tank of 8.7 gallons of methanol - similar to conventional vehicles.

Daimler-Benz decided to opt for methanol because it is the most suitable fuel for hydrogen generation. Although petrol and diesel were also considered, the efficiency levels of these fuels would have been lower. For the introductory phase of fuel-cell powered vehicles at least, engineers are considering the possibility of a multi-fuel concept which, as the name suggests, would permit the use of different types of fuel until methanol is widely available.

The drive system of NECAR3 is virtually emission-free. Neither nitrogen oxides nor soot particles are created during conversion of methanol to hydrogen or in the subsequent generation of electrical energy. And thanks to the extreme efficiency of the fuel cells, carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions are substantially below those of conventional cars.

With the advent of onboard hydrogen generation, a crucial step has been taken towards developing the environmentally friendly fuel cell technology that could eventually power vehicles of the future. An equally important milestone on the road to this lofty goal is the incorporation of the entire system into the 3.57 m long A-class. Once again, the innovative double-floor sandwich concept employed in the A-class has proved its worth, allowing the complete installation of the fuel cells and several auxiliary units underneath the passenger cell.

The methanol fuel tank, reformer and control system are located in the rear of the car.

The methanol reformer technology in NECAR3 has benefited from a wide range of technological advances at Daimler-Benz. Not only has the system been made smaller and more efficient, but the performance and dynamic response of the reformation process have also been improved. The result is a compact unit of some 18 inches in height. Located to the rear of the A-class, the reformer directly injects hydrogen into the fuel cells. Hydrogen production occurs at a temperature of 280° centigrade: methanol and water vaporize to give hydrogen (H₂), carbon dioxide (CO₂), and carbon monoxide (CO).

The hydrogen protons travel through the polymer membrane while the electrons travel through an external circuit to arrive at the positive electrode. There, the oxygen, hydrogen protons and electrons combine to form water. An electric motor attached to the external circuit is then used to drive the vehicle.

Fuel cell cars represent one facet of the wealth of research and development being carried out by Daimler-Benz into the way that cars and other forms of transport can be improved for the future. If these advances continue with the same speed as they do currently, we could be driving fuel cell cars by 2004. For more information, contact the Mercedes-Benz website at www.mercedes-benz.co.uk

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سكزا من الأهل

Welsh tourist chief not welcome in hills



The missing holidaymakers: a cloudy evening at Aberystwyth, compared with crowds enjoying the sunshine at Valencia. Adverts say that Wales is "two hours and a million miles away"

Executive who took summer holiday in Spain is now on extra leave, Simon de Bruxelles and Tim Jones report



French: he promoted emptiness of Wales

THE head of the Wales Tourist Board was on "extended leave" last night after being severely criticised for taking a three-week holiday in Spain during a bad summer for the nation he is paid £63,000-a-year to promote.

John French, 53, was expected back at work from the Costa del Sol on Tuesday. The board announced that he would not be returning yet, but refused to confirm that he was in discussions about his future. A spokesman said: "Everyone is entitled to take their holidays wherever they like, although obviously people in the tourist industry feel that Wales is by far and away the best place for a break."

Hotels, seaside resorts and tourist attractions say trade is down by a 20 per cent across Wales. Dull weather and the strong pound have been blamed for a slump in the number of holidaymakers from Britain and

abroad. But there has also been criticism of the marketing strategy adopted by the tourist board which has promoted Wales's scenery and outdoor attractions in preference to traditional bucket-and-spade holidays. A £5-million advertising campaign depicted Wales as a land of deserted beaches and lonely mountains. Critics said this made Wales look empty and unappealing.

Ashford Price, who runs a showcaves and dinosaur park at Dan-yr-Ogof, near Swansea, wrote to the Welsh Office to complain about Mr French's Spanish holiday. Yesterday he said: "Tourism in Wales is a fast-sinking ship but at least we should have someone to tell us where the lifeboats are."

"We're in crisis and it is ridiculous that our leader is shooting off to Spain. Spain is our competition. It is like your

leading striker scoring an own goal." Jonathan Quant, who fears he may have to close his wildlife park at Pencynor, near Neath, said: "The Wales Tourist Board does not appear to know how to market the area. Everywhere in the world, people have positive images of Ireland or Scotland but of Wales, if they know of it, they think of coal and grime."

Jim Moore, chairman of Brecon Beacon Tourist, which represents holiday operators in the national park, said that the campaign which promoted Wales as "two hours and a million miles away" conveyed the wrong image. "Whereas the WTB spends £3 million, the Irish spend £60 million in Wales, the board seems to miss the target. The industry needs more than stressed-out Londoners on weekend breaks."

Mr French was unavailable to

comment yesterday. The spokesman for the Wales Tourist Board said he was on "extended leave" and added: "He has been under attack for his leadership or lack of it in a summer which has been very difficult for the tourist industry in Wales. We would not ban people from taking their holidays abroad."

The publicity campaign was said to have been undertaken after exhaustive consultation with a wide range of people involved in the industry. The spokesman added: "They liked what they saw and we are confident in our strategy."

Among other tourist chiefs, Tim Barlen, chief executive of the English Tourist Board, went to Mexico to visit relatives of his Mexican wife, Antonio de la Morena forsook his London role as director of the Spanish Tourist Office and went to the Costa del Sol.

THE CHOICE

WALES
Visitors: 10.2 million Britons
Local dishes: cawl, a lamb broth with vegetable; leeks; laver bread
Beaches: mostly golden and clean
Sights: castles aplenty, the views of Overton Church near Wrexham, Llangollen Bridge, Snowdon, Wrexham spire, Pystyl Rhedwr waterfall
Sun: Cardiff 1,553 hrs
Rain: Cardiff 1,065 mm.

COSTA DEL SOL
Visitors: 10.5 million Britons
Local dishes: paella, tapas, burgers
Beaches: grey to golden
Sights: from the high-rise horrors of Torremolinos to the delights of the little town of Marbella with whitewashed houses covered with bougainvillea and jasmine.
Sun: Malaga 2,963 hrs
Rain: Malaga 474 mm.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES

MEET RICHARD BRANSON



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THE TIMES

Two men charged with murdering aid worker

By JOANNA BAILE

TWO men have been charged with the murder of Anna Lightfoot, the British voluntary aid worker stabbed to death in Belize.

Tim Stew, the Deputy British High Commissioner, said the men, both local and aged 20 and 21, had admitted to robbing and killing Miss Lightfoot. "They didn't take a lot, just a small amount of money. There was no sexual motive." He added that one of the men would also be charged with an unrelated rape offence. Under Belize law they face the death penalty.

Miss Lightfoot, 27, from Saddleworth, near Oldham, had been in the former British colony for nine weeks, helping to organise young volunteers on a Raleigh International project to build three classrooms. She disappeared on Monday while walking through jungle to a village to buy provisions. A second post-

mortem examination and forensic tests confirmed that she died of multiple stab wounds. Her killers went through her rucksack but left the contents by her body.

Her father, David Lightfoot, a criminal lawyer from Fowey, Cornwall, said yesterday: "We're pleased that there appears to have been a successful investigation. It will help us to draw a line under it. The motive seems to have been robbery. Her rucksack was missing and has now been found, along with a possible murder weapon."

He added that her body was being flown to Britain overnight and that there would be an inquest before the funeral. "He said that he and his wife, Freda, a novelist, had been impressed by the efforts of the Belize authorities to find their daughter's body and to track down the killers. "We are especially pleased for Raleigh

International because this hopefully means that the project will continue. Anna would have hated it if her death had jeopardised the project."

Raleigh International said all its volunteers in the country would be remaining to take part in other projects.

Miss Lightfoot had a diploma in countryside management and had previously been working as an assistant countryside warden on river projects for Tameside council. She had been in Belize working as one of 36 volunteer members of staff overseeing 93 young volunteers.

British troops have been stationed in Belize, which is on the Caribbean coast of the Central American country, since the 1970s to protect its borders from encroaching Guatemala. It has a reputation for drug-dealers and lawlessness.

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Vet took an overdose of animal sedative

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

A VET injected herself with ten times the normal dose of a tranquilliser used to knock out horses after an argument with her boyfriend.

Ceridwen Wray, 33, was found slumped in a chair at her home by her boyfriend, Richard Little. A suicide note was found beside her body along with a bottle of the tranquilliser, Somulose, and two bottles of wine.

Clair du Boulay, a pathologist, told an inquest that there were two injection marks on Miss Wray's left forearm. She said: "Tests confirmed there was a massive overdose of a local anaesthetic. Death would have occurred very quickly."

Miss Wray had been made a partner at the Seadown Veterinary Hospital in Hythe, Hampshire, several months before her death in August.

Miss Wray and Mr Little, who met in 1995, had been planning to live together but Mr Little said the relationship had become volatile and he voiced his concerns about the plan. He said they discussed the situation but, when he went to visit her the next morning, he found her slumped in a chair with the curtains drawn and the tranquilliser beside her.

Ralph Ellis, a senior partner at the Seadown Hospital, said: "She enjoyed the work and was very well-liked. She was cheerful, popular and extremely gifted. This is a great loss to the practice and to the profession as well."

The coroner recorded a verdict of suicide.

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Curiosity makes you a cat's best friend

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

THE popular notion that cats are attracted to the laps of those who like them least has been refuted by scientists. Cats, it seems, are less contrary than previously assumed, and almost dog-like in their devotion to those who give them attention.

The research, carried out by scientists at Southampton University's Institute of Anthrozoology, studied videos of men meeting unfamiliar cats in a room to find out how human eye-contact, or lack of it, affected feline behaviour.

Deborah Goodwin and John Bradshaw, of the research team, explained: "We explored the commonly held belief that cats are attracted to people who dislike them. We tried to determine whether this might be related to the way that such people look at cats and how cats respond."

The scientists, whose research is published in *New Scientist*, tested their theory using eight cats and 16 men. Half the men said they liked cats and half said they did not.

The men were seated in a room and a cat was let in. They were asked to avoid stroking or talking to the cat,

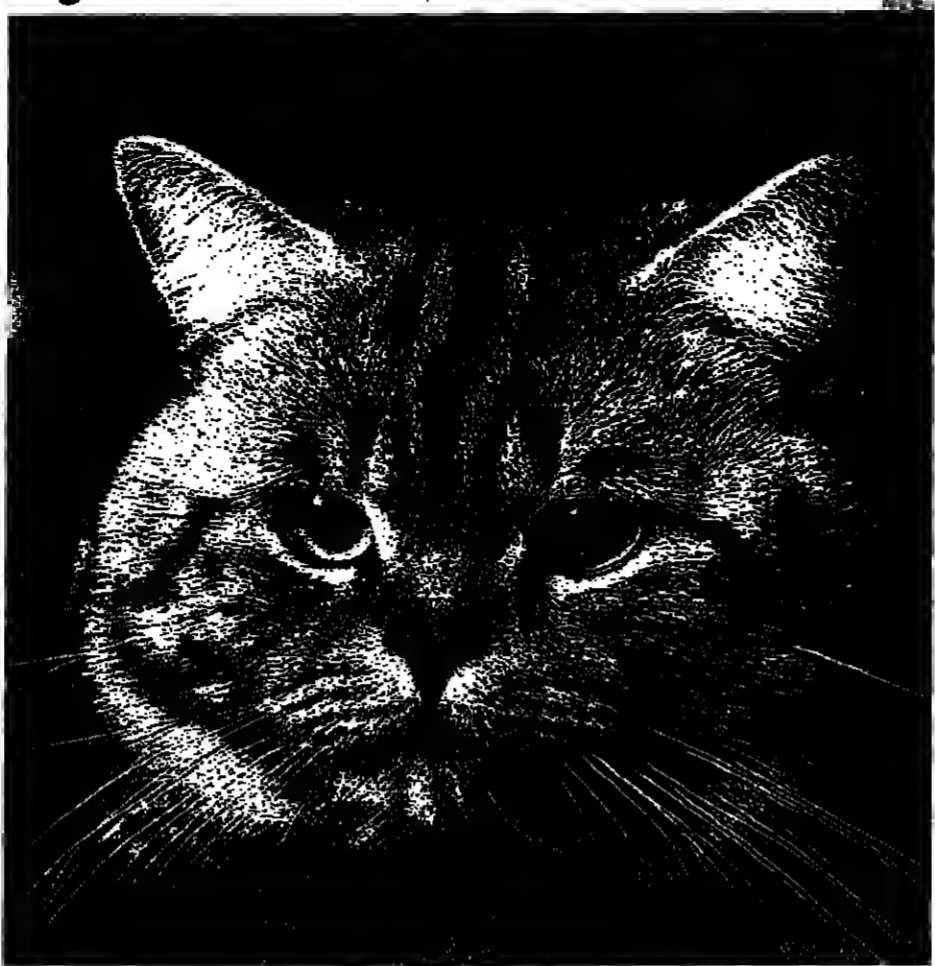
but were told they could watch or ignore the animal as they wished.

The scientists will report their findings next week at a seminar in Prague, entitled *Human-Companion Animal Communication: Understandings and Misunderstandings*. They found there were significant differences between the men who disliked cats and those who liked them. This, in turn, had a significant effect on the cats' behaviour.

The cat-lovers spent far longer looking at the cat, even when it was ignoring them by grooming or lolling around. The men who disliked cats tended to ignore the animal, looking at it only when it approached.

The cats spent more time looking at the men who liked them and would glance and stare at them more frequently. They were more likely to sit facing the cat-lovers and would turn away from the men who disliked them and put their tails up.

The researchers concluded in their findings that cats were more likely to attempt friendly contact with people who liked them than with those who did not.



Researchers found cats responded best to those who showed an interest in them

Blair links News at Ten change to downmarket slide

By Raymond Snoddy, Media Editor

TONY BLAIR declared his opposition to *News at Ten* being moved as the ITV companies asked the Independent Television Commission yesterday for permission to replace it with news at 6.30pm and 11pm.

His spokesman said that the Prime Minister "supports *News at Ten* staying where it is because it has got a deserved reputation for reporting often complex political, international and other issues in a very digestible and even-handed way".

Mr Blair would find it "regrettable" if the ITV decision led to further marginalising of news or further move downmarket by ITV. His opposition was reminiscent of the reservations expressed by John Major as Prime Minister when an attempt was made to move the news bulletin in 1993, a concern that was backed by the late John Smith,

the Labour leader. ITV said yesterday that the move was part of creating a more competitive evening schedule to win back lost viewers. It promised to offer better comedy and drama, regular top-class sport and more news overall.

Under the plan, which has to be agreed by the ITC, there would be a 30-minute 6.30pm news programme presented by Trevor McDonald, followed by a half-hour programme at 11pm "with enhanced international, parliamentary and regional reporting".

In a sop to the politicians, ITV is offering one-minute bulletins to cover important breaking news, including important divisions in the House of Commons. It also proposes a *News at Ten* for ITV2, the new digital channel. A news and current affairs programme like CBS's *60 Min-*

utes, beginning at 10pm, will be introduced on ITV.

Richard Eyre, the ITV chief executive, said last night that ITV's evening schedule had not change for 30 years, even though the broadcasting environment had changed beyond recognition. "We are taking the main evening news to the real battlefield for viewers — the early evening," he said.

The ITV companies have unanimously backed the proposal and the signs are that the ITC will be more amenable than last time, soon after the start of the new ITV licences. Opposition is also likely to be more muted in ITN, which has become a much more commercial body in the past five years, providing news programmes for all commercial terrestrial television round the clock.

Between 1994 and 1997 ITV peaktime share declined from 44.3 per cent to 38.8 per cent.

Fur flies over professor's feline stew

From Richard Owen in Rome

CAT-LOVERS be warned: stick to spaghetti when you are next in Vicenza. Pet-owners in the prosperous, well-fed and normally rather staid town in the Veneto region are in uproar over a cookery book that includes a recipe for a local delicacy — casserole of cat.

Enraged animal rights activists yesterday condemned Terenzio Sartore, whose *The Traditional Food and Cooking of Vicenza* offers a scholarly guide to local cuisine. Professor Sartore, 70, a local historian, said his book had not even reached the shops. But advance copies have caused an outcry and he is reported to be in hiding.

The book describes tasty but unexceptional recipes for traditional Veneto favourites such as polenta or pork and bean soup. Some of the dishes, admittedly, require a strong stomach — polenta with cow's lung (*polenta e coradela*), for example, or cheese with worms (in local dialect, *formajo coi bai*).

But the recipe that has caused most offence is *il gato in teca* (literally, cat in a pot). There was widespread disbelief yesterday over Professor Sartore's revelation that people have a tradition of

eating cats in Vicenza, which is the centre of Italy's textile and computer industries and boasts many 16th-century buildings by Andrea Palladio.

"Vicenza will forever be dubbed the city not of Palladian architecture, but of cat-eaters," said *Corriere della Sera*, the national daily. Italians — a nation of meat-eaters — are used to more unusual fare, including hare, rabbit and wild boar, but delicacies common in Roman times, such as dormice (fed on acorns and chestnuts), have mercifully died out. However, Professor Sartore said cat stew had long been a Vicenza favourite, "probably as a substitute for rabbit, when rabbit was scarce". His book continues: "It is similar in texture and taste, and, if anything, less stringy. From time to time our housewives cook it, perhaps to justify our past reputation as cat-eaters."

The book gives no instructions on how to catch your cat, but offers a detailed account of how to prepare and cook it. According to Professor Sartore, cat is best eaten in the winter — skinned, gutted, headless and stewed. In the old days, he said, cat meat was tenderised by being soaked in water and vinegar or being left in the snow for several days.

"After tenderising, you cut it into pieces and brown it with butter, oil, garlic and parsley. Then you stew it in white wine for two hours with salt and pepper, sage leaves, cloves, rosemary and bay leaves."

Gianluca Felicetti, of the Italian Anti-Vissection League, said it was considering legal action against Professor Sartore and the publishers. "The ill-treatment and killing of cats is expressly forbidden under a 1991 law."

Leading article, page 21



Police dog with nose for trouble

By Tim Jones

POLICE forces are to be told that if they really want to get their man, they should abandon German shepherd dogs and replace them with bloodhounds. A six-month trial by Essex Police has proved that when it comes to following a scent, the breed has a far finer nose than Alsatians.

PC Malcolm Fish, a dog handling expert with the force, said he has been staggered by the abilities of his two dogs, Sherlock and Morse, who are eight months old.

PC Fish, who was funded by an £11,000 grant from the Government, will be asking the Home Office to recommend bloodhounds to every force in the country.

Where foot patrols and a helicopter had failed, Sherlock followed the 27-hour-old trail of a confused pensioner and found her in a wood after tracking her through fields and roads. PC Fish said: "Their tracking abilities are out of this world. The person they are after does not even have to touch the ground."

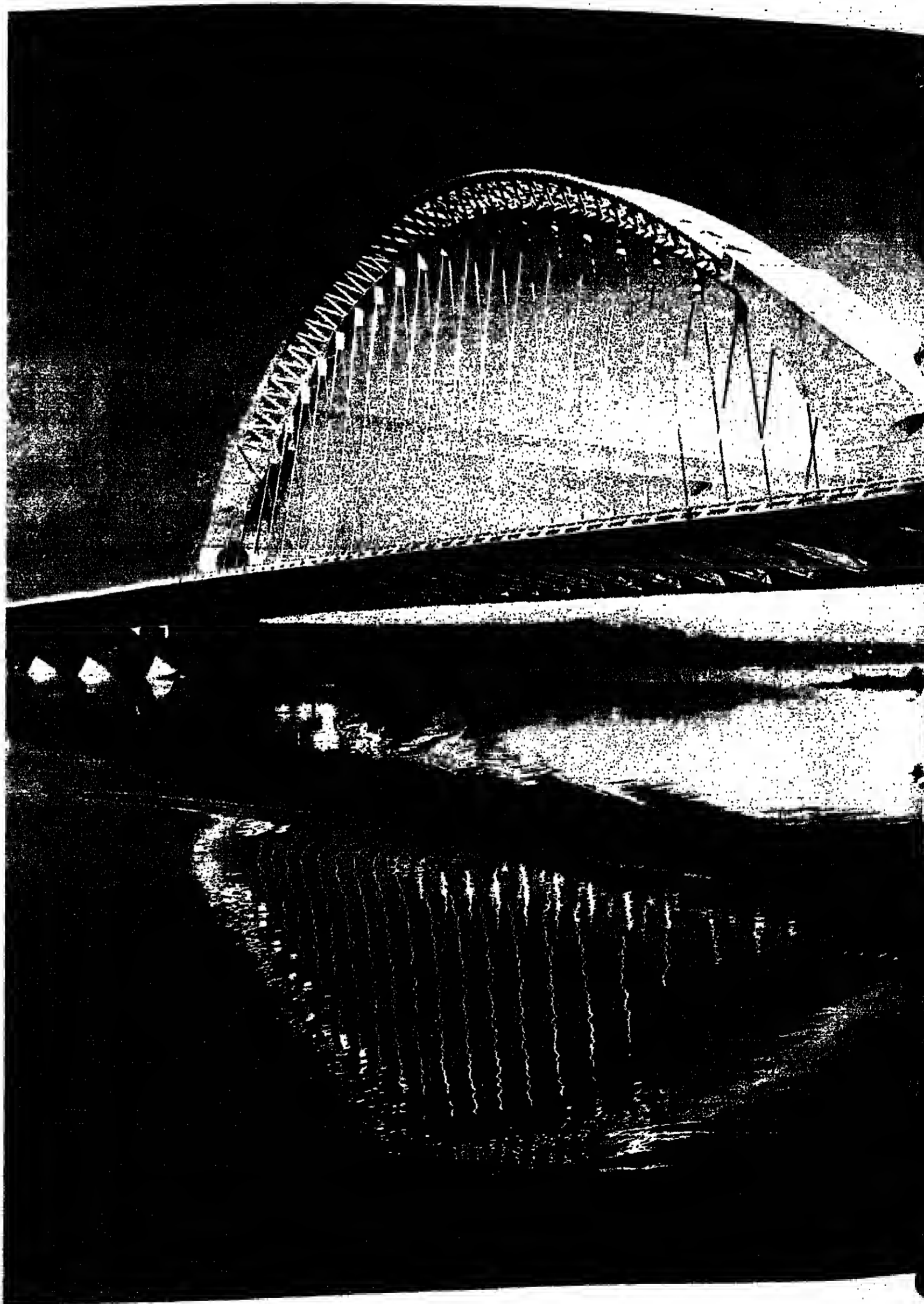
Spice adds kick to weak beers

By Nick Nuttall

A SPICE from Asia may be the key to making low-alcohol drinks taste like the real thing. Beers that contain only a trace of alcohol may be safe to have as "one for the road", but lack a bit of kick. Now a study of galangal, a ginger-like spice, has opened the possibility of making low-alcohol drinks taste more alcoholic.

A Swiss team led by Markus Gautschi, of the Glaxo-Wellcome Research in Dubendorf, purified the active ingredient in galangal. In tests, volunteers reported that the substance made low-alcohol drinks taste as if they contained more alcohol.

The effect works only if some alcohol is present. Galangal seems to enhance the taste of alcohol on the tongue. There are limits, however. Reporting on the research, presented at a meeting of the American Chemical Society in Boston, Massachusetts, the *New Scientist* magazine said: "Gautschi says that they can't make a non-alcoholic beer taste like real ale."



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Police paid out record £10m over cases linked to Stalker

Committee of MPs criticises force for keeping figure secret from public, writes Richard Ford

A POLICE force paid out more than £10 million in damages and costs to settle four claims of malicious prosecution. It was disclosed yesterday.

The payout, the biggest by a British force, followed allegations by Kevin Taylor, a Manchester businessman, that his prosecution for fraud was part of a campaign to discredit his friend John Stalker, the former Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester.

The total costs arising from the four cases, which had previously been concealed from the public because of a confidentiality clause, were disclosed in a report by the Commons Home Affairs Select Committee. David Wilmot, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, gave the figure in a letter to MPs after they demanded to know the total paid in the cases of Mr Taylor and three others prosecuted with him for an alleged bank fraud.

Mr Wilmot said the sum

was £10.5 million, which included the damages and costs for the four men and Greater Manchester Police. It is understood that £2.3 million was paid in damages to Mr Taylor, 66, a property developer from Helmshore, Lancashire.

The committee's report says: "This seems to us to be an enormous sum and, even if, in this particular case, most of the sum was paid by an insurance company, it serves to emphasise the importance of the issues involved."

The payouts were made when Greater Manchester Police gave up defending allegations of malicious prosecution after being told by Municipal Mutual Insurance that almost £6 million had been spent on costs and that their legal insurance cover was running out.

The prosecution case against Mr Taylor was withdrawn in January 1990 after seven weeks, when the judge instructed the jury to return not guilty verdicts. Mr Taylor,



Stalker resigned from the Manchester force

Derek Britton, an accountant, Terence Bowley, formerly corporate business manager with Cooperative Bank in Manchester, and Vincent McCann, a quantity surveyor, had denied attempting to obtain a bank overdraft dishonestly.

Mr Taylor claimed that he had been maliciously prosecuted for fraud as part of a campaign to discredit Mr Stalker, who investigated alle-

gations of a "shoot to kill" policy by the RUC.

Mr Stalker was removed from his leadership of the inquiry and suspended from duty in 1986. He was reinstated but was not allowed to resume his investigation in Northern Ireland and he resigned from the Greater Manchester force the following year.

The MPs' report is critical of the decision to keep the payout secret, especially as neither Mr Taylor nor the insurance company requested confidentiality. "The fact that a payment may have been made under an insurance policy rather than directly from police funds does not in itself justify the withholding of the information from the public," it says. "We consider that it is wrong for them to be made subject to requirements of confidentiality."

The committee says that the public had the right to know what happened so that they could form their own judge-

ment on the way their police force had acted.

The report also criticises the fact that only a subcommittee of Greater Manchester Police Authority was involved in discussions leading to the decision to settle the case out of court. "We were surprised that all the members of the police authority were not kept informed of the progress of the case and the outcome."

It says that the arguments for public disclosure outweigh those for secrecy and recommends that all 43 police forces in England and Wales take steps to ensure that in future payouts for civil claims are made public.

Since settling the Taylor case out of court, Greater Manchester Police has changed its policy and now meets the first £250,000 of individual claims from its own budget. The force has denied that this is a requirement of insurance companies because of the large payout to Mr Taylor.



Kevin Taylor, who claimed malicious police prosecution, and his wife, Beryl

Man who fought against smears

By RUSSELL JENKINS

KEVIN TAYLOR is the last and most enduring victim of the RUC's alleged shoot-to-kill policy in the early 1980s.

The property developer, now 66, lost an estimated £20 million fortune, his reputation and his health because of his friendship with John Stalker, then Greater Manchester Deputy Chief Constable. His name was vilified as the police officer's enemies sought to discredit Mr Stalker and bring his inquiry in Northern Ireland to an end.

On May 29, 1986, Mr Stalker was removed from the investigation and relieved of his duties as deputy to James Anderson, the Chief Constable. He was cleared of allegations of "associating with known criminals".

Mr Taylor and Mr Stalker had known each other since the 1970s, when their children attended the same school. As soon as Mr Stalker heard that he was under investigation for fraud, he severed his links with his friend. Mr Taylor was prosecuted in 1990, ac-

cus of defrauding the Co-operative Bank of £200,000. The case against him collapsed but by then he had lost his luxurious lifestyle. He lived on state benefits and had to move from a five-bedroom house to a terrace facing a busy road in Baxenden, a former weaving village in Lancashire.

He was determined, however, to prove that the Greater Manchester Police's prosecution was malicious. At Liverpool Crown Court in June 1995, he claimed that the charges were designed to discredit Mr Stalker. Mr Taylor finally accepted an out-of-court settlement of more than £2 million. He had claimed £10 million.

At the time he said: "Once again the Establishment has won because, if I did not accept the offer my team thought was fair, then I would have lost legal aid."

Mr Taylor was on holiday yesterday in Majorca with his family and unable to comment on the latest twist to the saga.

Crime defeats shopkeeper after 64 years

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

TEENAGE thugs have succeeded where the Luftwaffe failed. For 64 years Frank Eddolls kept his corner shop open through war and peace.

But now he is shutting up shop for good after being robbed for the 235th time.

Crime was rare when Mr Eddolls opened a newsagent's shop in 1934. But over the past few years he has been bludgeoned with an iron bar and attacked with a baseball bat, and has lost count of the number of times he has been held up at knife and gunpoint.

Mr Eddolls, 87, said yesterday: "I used to run after them, but I can't any more because I was hit across the legs with a baseball bat. I hate to give in to these cowards because it makes them the winners, but things are just too rough." In an effort to protect himself he has installed three security cameras and a panic alarm linked to the local police station.

Mr Eddolls earned the reputation of Britain's most robbed shopkeeper after he began keeping a diary of incidents in his corner shop in Southville, a suburb of Bristol.

When he opened for business in the summer of 1934, cheese was 10d a pound, sugar 5d a pound, milk 4d a pint and eggs 2d each. Shoplifting was virtually unheard of. During the war Mr Eddolls defied German air raids and opened every day to serve workers from nearby munitions factories.

During the 1950s and 1960s, the nearest he came to a criminal was a schoolboy who grabbed a boiled sweet and fled. But by the late 1970s shoplifting had become commonplace.

His diary of thefts and robberies, begun in 1981, makes grim reading. In 1991 he spent 13 weeks in hospital after being hit with an iron

bar. Three years later he was back in hospital, where he spent 12 weeks after being kicked and beaten by three youths.

Mr Eddolls, a divorcee, said yesterday: "They all want something for nothing and most are either drunk or high on drugs. They see the shop as an easy target. The level of violence has got higher and higher and the age of those prepared to use it gets younger and younger."

"Even at the height of the Blitz, with death and destruction all around us, people would not dream of descending to such violence and anarchy. We had respect for each other and treated each other with dignity. Of course there was the odd shoplifter, but there was never this violence and hatred."

A spokeswoman for the National Federation of Retail Newsagents said: "It is appalling that someone who has provided vital services for so many years feels he cannot continue. The federation regrets people being put out of business in this way, but it is a sign of the times."

"Robberies are on the increase in shops and last year there was an increase of 40 per cent in physical violence against staff. Small shops like newsagents are opening longer hours in the face of increased competition and unfortunately are seen as soft targets."

Avon and Somerset Constabulary said that over the years a number of people had been prosecuted for stealing from Mr Eddolls. A spokesman said: "It is unfortunate that certain people will take advantage of the elderly. When Mr Eddolls has reported incidents to us they have been fully investigated and people have been charged with offences committed."

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Major raises fears on 'haste' over terror laws

By NICHOLAS WATT
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR last night voiced doubts about the Government's decision to rush through the Northern Ireland anti-terrorism legislation and to tack on measures to crack down on Middle East terrorists based in Britain.

The former Prime Minister pledged his support for the Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill, but warned that it "showed the signs of haste" and might eventually prove to be defective.

The Bill is designed to toughen up anti-terrorist measures by making it easier for a court to convict a suspected terrorist of membership of one of four groups opposed to the peace process. The evidence of a senior police officer would be admissible as evidence and courts would be able to draw inference from the refusal of suspects to answer questions.

The Bill would also crack down on terrorists, mainly from the Middle East, who use Britain as a base. A conspiracy to commit a terrorist crime abroad could be tried in Britain.

During the Second Reading of the Bill, Mr Major said: "We are being asked to endorse a policy the Government has speedily brought together. It is almost bound to have loopholes. It would be a miracle if it did not have loopholes."

Mr Major said that the

THE DEBATE

haste was understandable because of the atrocity at Omagh. "However worthy the motives of the Government we do have a duty to ensure workable, practical and credible legislation going through this House," he added.

Mr Major said the provision in the Bill targeting groups which plot overseas attacks was "a very difficult and complex area to define". He added: "The objective is laudable and I thoroughly support the objective. But the definition of these groups is very tricky. We should legislate here with very great care. It would have been better if we had done so with more time for consultation and consideration because we would, I believe, have produced more effective legislation."

Mr Major's intervention came after MPs from every political party rebelled against the Government's handling of the Bill. At the end of a debate on the time-table of it, 90 MPs voted against the Government, with 317 MPs voting in favour, a Government majority of 227.

The rebels included 16 Labour MPs, 39 Tories, including the former Prime Minister Sir Edward Heath, 19 Liberal Democrats, and two tellers.

Richard Shepherd, the Conservative MP for Aldridge-Brownhills, said that "Parliamentary procedures had been corrupted by the Government's decision to rush

through the legislation. He said: "This is no way for the House to do its business. The Government is acting manipulatively. We have been knee-jerked here. We have to have pride in our processes because in our processes we defend our liberties in the face of these terrorists."

Tony Benn, the Labour MP for Chesterfield, said that by publishing the Bill in draft form on Tuesday night the Government had given MPs no time to consult their constituents and outside experts. He said: "We are being used to rubber-stamp what the Government has decided to do. What a way to treat Parliament, as if we're the Supreme Soviet just summoned to carry out the instructions of the Central Committee. Whatever the merits of the Bill, it is an absolute affront to this House to tell us that by tonight we have to pass this Bill."

Robert Marshall-Andrews, QC, the Labour MP for Medway, said that the bill had been so badly drafted he could not decipher many of its clauses which had a "profound effect on the liberty" of people. "I find it utterly incomprehensible. One of the reasons is the unnecessary speed with which it was drafted."

Alain Clark, the Conservative MP for Kensington and Chelsea, said: "This is an example of the contempt in which the Prime Minister himself holds this chamber."

Peter Brooke, the Conservative MP for the Cities of London and Westminster who



Mr Blair tells MPs yesterday that the Bill is necessary to continue the peace process

is a former Northern Ireland Secretary, said that the clauses dealing with conspiracy to commit offences abroad should be deleted.

His comments were echoed by Donald Anderson, the Labour MP for Swansea East who is chairman of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee. He said: "I accept the symbolism that the Daily [Irish Parliament] and our own Parliament march together in respect of terrorism. I am less happy to accept the symbolism that we have to rush our proceedings through because of the visit of the President of the US to Ireland."

Margaret Beckett, the Leader of the House, insisted that the Government was not dealing with the Bill in an

unprecedented manner. Frontbenchers from the three main parties had all signed the motion setting out the time-table arrangements for the Bill, she said.

At this point Paul Tyler, the Liberal Democrat Chief Whip, interrupted Mrs Beckett to say that he had decided to remove his name from the motion. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, said the "tough but proportionate" Bill was intended to respond to the carnage in Omagh and to the threat posed by international terrorism. Opening the Second Reading of the Bill, Mr Straw said: "The peace process is moving forward with the overwhelming support of both communities in the North and of the people of the Republic. But small splinter groups have shown themselves ready to resort to appalling and indiscriminate destruction in a desperate effort to throw that process off course."

The Home Secretary added that the "devastating" bombings of the United States embassies in Kenya and Tanzania and the bombing of the Planet Hollywood restaurant in Cape Town were further reminders of the wider threat. Mr Straw said: "We have to send the clearest message to international terrorist groups that we in the United King-

dom will not allow this country to be used as a basis for plotting and supporting terrorist operations abroad."

Mr Straw said that the United Kingdom had strong powers to combat terrorism, but added that it was important to remedy practical deficiencies which come to light. He told MPs that the Bill specifically attacks four terrorist groups - the Real IRA, the Continuity IRA, the Irish National Liberation Army and the Loyalist Volunteer Force - which either have no ceasefire or have declared ceasefires which have not been tested.

The Home Secretary said that the legislation was designed to address the problems in prosecuting for membership of such organisations. The Bill would also give courts new powers to seize the assets of convicted terrorists if the court was satisfied that it had been used by the four banned groups.

Mr Straw said: "I believe this new provision offers a valuable reinforcement: emphasising the gravity of the offence and pulling away the practical props these groups need to support their evil work." He reassured MPs that the judicial process remained "paramount".

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MPs brushed aside for the bigger picture

RIDDELL
ON POLITICS

POLITICAL expediency and convenience have, as so often, taken precedence over proper parliamentary scrutiny. Yesterday evening's protest by backbench MPs against the speed with which the emergency anti-terrorist legislation is being rushed through in two days is a classic example of the frustrated impotence of the legislature in face of a determined executive.

The strength of feeling among MPs was genuine and has not previously been seen in this parliament. But, as often on these occasions, there was an element of unreality. No one seriously expected the Government to amend the timetable for considering the Bill, let alone the detailed proposals. But the breadth of the protest was striking: 90 MPs, including two tellers, was far more than the usual awkward squad. Among the speakers against the time-table, Peter Brooke or Gwyneth Dunwoody would never be counted in that category. There was a sense of "we've been mucked around too long".

The protesters have a case, at least on procedure, even if not on the substance of the Bill. There have been all too many examples of hurried legislation turning out to be bad legislation - from the original Official Secrets Act to the Dangerous Dogs Act.

The Criminal Justice (Terrorism and Conspiracy) Bill is 14 pages long and has profound implications for civil liberties, not least because it covers the activities of terrorists in general rather than just Northern Ireland. Yet MPs and the public only saw it late on Tuesday and many members were, in practice, able to consider the details only when they returned to Westminster yesterday.

Truncating all Commons stages into one sitting day ensures that there will not be proper scrutiny. The Bill should have been published last week and the Commons and Lords should each have had two days on debate on

it. The trouble is that MPs tend to sound whining and papawps when they talk about the rights of the Commons.

The public may, in theory, favour stronger scrutiny, but, in practice, it would rather see tough action against terrorism. Jack Straw made a persuasive case for the substance of the Bill in his speech. Painstaking and good-humoured, he was the ideal minister to deal with the worries.

The Bill is narrowly focused with clear safeguards to protect against the miscarriages of justice that have occurred too often in the past on Irish terrorist matters. Mr Straw claimed that the provisions were consistent with the Bill incorporating the European Convention of Human Rights into British law.

All this is really secondary for the Government. For Tony Blair, there is a much bigger picture than the rumblings at Westminster. He made plain that one of the main reasons for the timing of the Bill is to match what the Irish Government is doing this week. If Dublin is prepared to act, London cannot be seen to lag behind, particularly with President Clinton visiting Northern Ireland today.

The Bill is really intended to draw a line between Sinn Fein/IRA and renegade republican groups. Mr Blair distinguished between groups which had broad support and those which had not, leading independent Unionist Robert McCartney to talk about "good" and "wicked" terrorists. Mr Blair, and now apparently David Trimble, are putting their faith, if not entire trust, in the ability of Gerry Adams to deliver. Yesterday's Bill is one part of that broader strategy, with Parliament merely an onlooker.

PETER RIDDELL

New Bill will deal with 'evil men who seek to wreck peace'

By POLLY NEWTON
POLITICAL REPORTER

NEW anti-terrorism laws put forward by the Government were "a proportionate and targeted response" to the violence of the Omagh bombers, Tony Blair said yesterday. In a statement to the House of Commons, the Prime Minister said that the aim of the legislation was to make it easier to prove membership of illegal organisations such as the Real IRA. Speaking as Parliament began its two-day emergency sitting, Mr Blair said that the Bill would deal with "small and evil groups of violent men who seek to wreck the hopes for peace which the great majority yearn for and have voted for".

He said the attack in

Omagh was a deliberate attempt to wreck the Good Friday peace agreement by a small group of extremists with no moral or political support.

"The aim of the bombers was not just to kill innocent people but to strike at the heart of the peace process. The best response we can give is not therefore to abandon the Good Friday agreement but to carry it forward vigorously, to deny them the very objective they seek, and to continue to work for a better future for Northern Ireland that puts the past behind it."

In a direct message to the bombers, Mr Blair said: "You sought to wreck the agreement, and you failed. You

sought to divide the community, and you failed. You sought to win new support, and you failed. You failed because violence and terror represent the past in Northern Ireland, and democracy and peace represent the future."

He said that the Bill would also enact "long-held plans" to outlaw conspiracy within the UK to commit offences in other countries. The recent "horrific" bomb attacks on the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, and the explosion at a restaurant in Cape Town, had proved that terrorism was an increasing threat worldwide.

"Britain must play an active part in (the) international battle against terrorism and avoid becoming any kind of haven for international terrorists and their supporters," Mr Blair said.

The Conservative leader, William Hague, expressed his party's support for the Bill, but warned: "We do inevitably worry about the effectiveness and the operation of any legislation that is so hastily conceived and executed." He called on the Government to publish a review of the effectiveness of the new measures before they came back to Parliament to be renewed in a year's time.

Mr Hague said that it had been a mistake for the Government to give up its reserve power of interment - a power still retained in the Irish Republic. Mr Blair said

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Parents to be compensated for child agency blunders

Watchdog says the CSA is failing to deal with complaints and ignoring letters, reports Alexandra Frean



Anne Parker: demanded "real measurable changes"

THE Child Support Agency has been ordered to pay £83,000 in compensation to 148 complainants and to apologise to a further 38. A government watchdog said scores of single mothers and absent fathers had been "grossly inconvenienced" by the mishandling of their cases. In her first report, Anne Parker, the Independent Case Examiner, demanded "real measurable changes" in performance over the next three years and the introduction of a more sensitive attitude among staff. Ms Parker was appointed by the Government at the end of 1996 to investigate CSA maladministration. She said: "They do not handle their complaints at all well. They don't take the opportunity to put things right. They sometimes don't listen to what people say and they don't reply to letters... Even when mistakes are acknowledged, apologies are grudging." The remarks will add impetus to the Government's "root and branch review" of the CSA, announced in July, and proposals to replace its complicated maintenance formula with a simple fixed-rate levy of 15 per cent of the absent parent's net income. In her first year in office, Ms

Parker received 1,087 complaints. Two thirds were from absent parents, with the remainder from parents with custody of children. She upheld 93 per cent of the 150 cases that she investigated in detail. The biggest compensation order was for £18,138, to a woman who received no maintenance payments from her ex-husband for two years after the CSA mistakenly cancelled a court order requiring him to contribute to his child's upkeep. Ms Parker, a former director of social services, criticised the CSA for being slow to implementing her adjudications in individual cases and for putting its own bureaucratic procedures before the needs and feelings of people. "Clients repeatedly tell me that they feel that no one in the organisation will listen to what they have to say, that an interview is almost impossible to arrange, and that there is a lack of ownership amongst agency staff in dealing with their case." One of the biggest problems was the amount of time it took the CSA to deal with even the most simple procedures. The report highlights the case of Mrs A, who supplied her ex-husband's address to the CSA

in 1993. Nine months passed before he was sent an inquiry form, then it was sent to the wrong address. No further action was taken for a further seven months.

when a Welsh version of the inquiry form, which he did not understand, was sent to him. The application had still not been sorted out by 1997. Another problem was the

difficulty in obtaining maintenance payments from absent parents who were self-employed and who could not therefore have the money deducted automatically from their pay.

To combat this, Ms Parker recommended greater sharing of information between government bodies, such as the Inland Revenue and the contributions agency. She also recommended that the wording of several forms be improved to avoid misunderstanding and called for more face-to-face meetings between agency officials and clients. Maevie Sherlock, the director of the National Council for One-Parent Families, said the report highlighted the need for reform of the CSA to begin immediately. "Lots of parents need a better service now." "The lessons from this, and other reports, must be taken on board so that what we get from this reform is the fair, efficient and properly resourced system that children deserve."

The National Association for Child Support Action said that the report highlighted the need for urgent reform of the CSA and a spokesman for the pressure group Families Need Fathers said CSA staff required better training. Mike Isaac, deputy chief executive of the CSA, said that the report would help the agency to address "problem areas and support our programme of improvement to customer service".

MPs tell ministers to get asset sales right

By VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

MINISTERS will be told bluntly by MPs today to improve their handling of future asset sales or risk losing the taxpayer hundreds of millions of pounds. The warning coincides with government plans to raise £11 billion over the next three years from the sale of, or creation of public-private partnerships to run, the Royal Mint, London Underground, National Air Traffic Services and the Tote, the state-owned betting organisation. The future of the Post Office is also being considered by ministers. But MPs on the influential Public Accounts Committee are determined that no more costly mistakes should be made by the Government and, in an unusual move, they will publish their

own blueprint today for the future handling of sales of public property. David Davis, the Tory chairman of the committee, said in a statement: "The taxpayers' interest is our primary concern. The lessons are clear, and it is vital that departments take the lessons learned and act on them in future." He said that the privatisation of 150 businesses over the past 20 years, which had raised more than £90 billion, was a success, but he added that too many mistakes had occurred. MPs were incensed by the loss of nearly £1 billion from the sale of the three rolling stock leasing companies. Officials at the Department of Transport had accepted that the timing of the 1996 privatisation might not result in the companies fetching a good

price. But MPs were dismayed that ministers and officials had failed to include a provision to allow the Government a share in profits of any resale of the companies. They also believe that any future share flotations should be in stages, to accrue maximum benefits to the taxpayer. In the case of AEA Technology, if the Department of Trade and Industry had held back 40 per cent of the shares, it could later have fetched more than £200 million. Instead, it went for £90 million. The report states that the DTI had said there had been "no value-for-money grounds" for phasing the sale. The high cost of professional consultants is also highlighted in the report. MPs insist that, in future, their fees be

capped and success fees set at "a reasonable level". They also demand that - other than in exceptional cases - advisers be appointed by full and open competition. They were alarmed by the appointment of the consultants Coopers and Lybrand to act as principal advisers for the sale of the UK Atomic Energy Authority. They were awarded seven contracts valued at £4.4 million without competition when a former senior partner of the firm was on the board of the authority. The committee also calls for greater care in timing. "A demanding timetable has resulted in departments taking decisions in haste or compressing the process so much that it has contributed to failure to maximise the outcome for the taxpayer."

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Call for new ministry to deal with scientific challenges

By NICK NUTTALL

A MINISTRY for science is urgently needed to tackle issues that will face the country in the next century, such as new diseases and genetically modified foods, the retiring president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science said yesterday.

Professor Colin Blakemore said the location of the Science Minister in the Department of Trade and Industry aligned science too much with industry and undermined the Government's ability to harness scientific breakthroughs.

Professor Blakemore, speaking before the association's annual meeting next week at Cardiff, said all government departments required sound scientific input. "We need a minister of science, separate from the Department of Trade and Industry and having a permanent position on the Cabinet," he said.

Only then could Britain encourage research across a wide range of disciplines while helping to co-ordinate policy in response to crises.

"Britain's record is not good at co-ordinating scientific responses to challenging circumstances. Take BSE: it is pretty obvious there was a bad co-ordination of scientific advice and effort."

He said that government advisers too often put forward a "distilled" view of scientific problems such as BSE or genetically modified crops without giving ministers a full range of opinions. A new ministry could set up ways of balancing and communicating scientific opinion to ministers to help them to formulate policy better.

He also welcomed the Government's increased science funding in the Comprehensive Spending Review, and recent praise from Tony Blair in the journal *Science*.

Lord Sainsbury, the Minister for Science, said the Government was not keen to support a separate ministry.

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** Micro Anvika, 245 Kettlewell Court Road will be open from 1 min past midnight until 5:00 am on 6th September

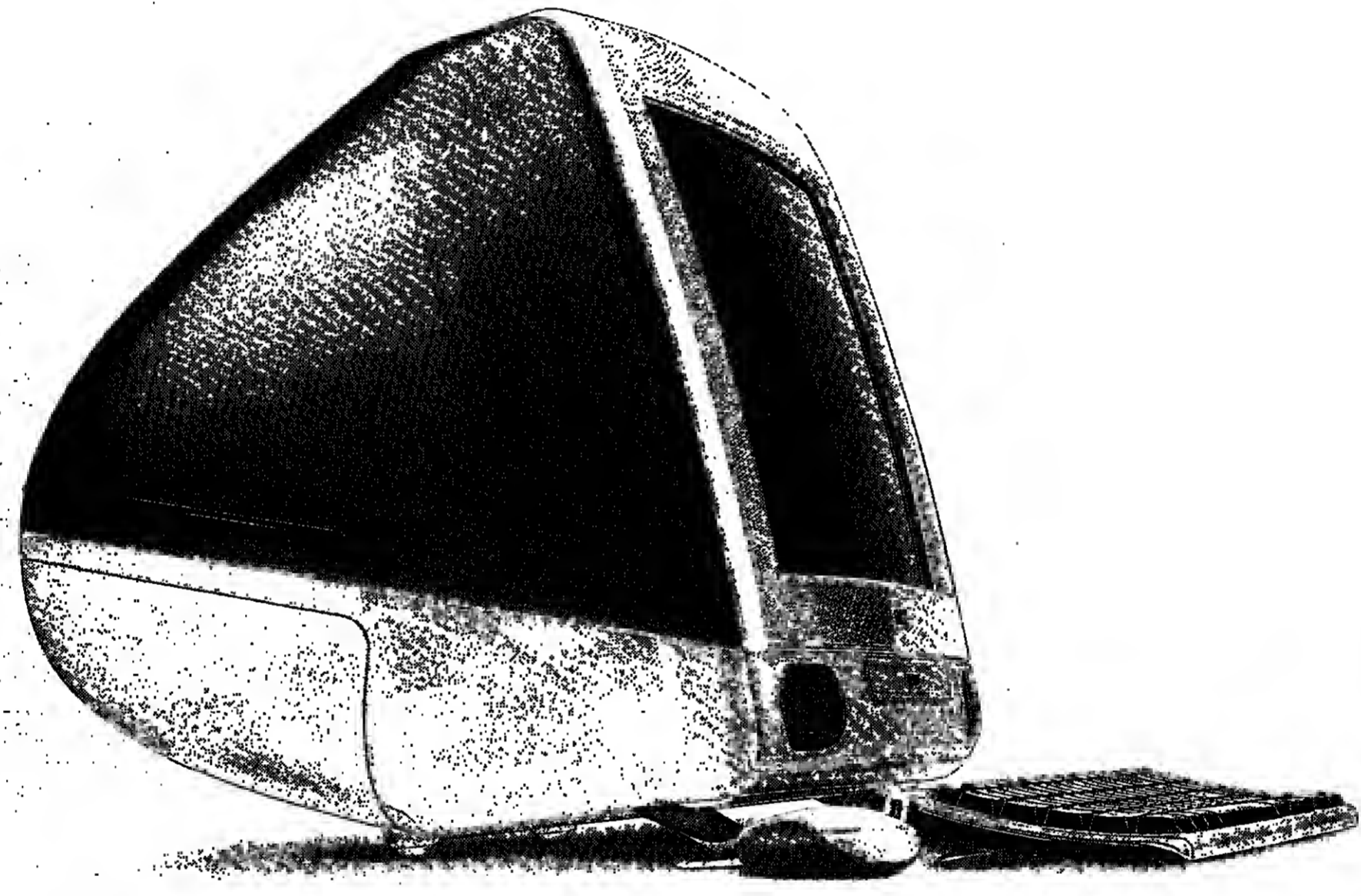
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US 'relieves guilt' with increased aid for Kosovo refugees

FROM TOM WALKER
IN PAGARUSA

THE last in a week-long procession of American diplomats and aid officials touring the ravaged valleys of central Kosovo left the province yesterday, promising ethnic Albanian refugees multi-million dollar humanitarian aid.

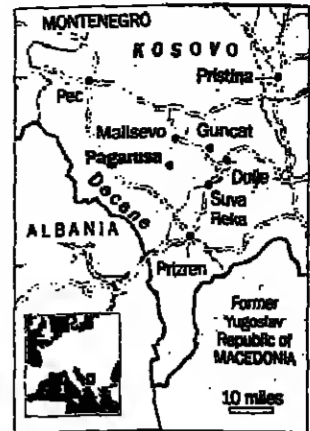
Through its humanitarian arm USAid, Washington will spend at least \$11 million in Kosovo by the end of the year — largesse many diplomats suspect reflects American guilt at having failed to galvanise the Contact Group nations into undertaking direct military intervention.

The latest envoy to emerge from the comfort of an air-conditioned and armoured Chevrolet into the heat and stench of villages crammed with the homeless was Hugh Parmer, USAid's head of humanitarian response. He promised a fourfold to fivefold increase

in the amount of food, medicines and materials delivered to the tens of thousands of Albanians already enduring a sharp drop in temperatures as night falls on their makeshift camps.

Despite the surrounding misery, Mr Parmer's tour encountered Kosovo's usual gamut of absurd and comical incidents. Police units on the road east of Malisevo sported women's necklaces in their epaulettes; later an armoured personnel carrier screamed past with an officer standing in the back wearing a mask and snorkel.

There is little attempt to hide the officially sanctioned looting of the towns and villages abandoned by the Albanians. In Pagarusa, Mr Parmer, by now too hot to endure his stetson, clambered amid the hastily-built refugee shelters, watching women baking bread beneath the open sky. "This is exactly the crisis scenario we've been fearing," admitted one of his medical advisers. "Compared to situations in Africa people have come into this in quite good condition, but as their nutrition levels go down their exposure to disease goes up."



Far Right wins legal battle over political advert

FROM ROGER BOYES
IN BONN

GERMANY'S far-right Republican party has won a legal battle to screen controversial television advertisements during the election campaign, significantly boosting its chances of capturing a foothold in the national and regional parliament.



The move came as another court ruled that the Republicans could not be spied on by the counter-intelligence service in Berlin because the party could not be defined as subversive or opposed to the Constitution.

Both rulings have buoyed up the far-right parties, which are concentrating their forces in the hope of jumping over the 5 per cent hurdle required to secure parliamentary representation.

est of free speech. Television channels have no right to question or interfere with the content of political advertising, provided it does not try to stir up sentiment against foreigners. The last time a television advertisement was blocked was when a far-right party showed asylum-seekers running through a jungle,

GERMAN ELECTIONS
The parties want to fudge the boundaries between patriotism and nationalism

The television ruling, made by a court in Mainz, has put the squeeze on private channels, such as SAT1, that were determined not to give any air time to right-wing radicals who are in many respects indistinguishable from neo-Nazis.

The Republicans had insisted on airing an advertisement that depicted Conrad Adenauer, the country's first post-war Chancellor, and Kurt Schumacher, who was then the leader of the Social Democratic opposition. Both men, the advertisement claimed, would have voted for the Republicans today. The party thus wanted to fudge the boundaries between German patriotism and extreme nationalism. SAT1 said this was not only nonsense — the politicians were declared anti-fascists, unlike many Republican supporters — but also libelled the families of the two dead men.

The court, however, decided that the advertisements should be shown in the inter-

The success of the far Right at the general election will — now that most legal obstacles have been removed — boil down to a question of money. It is the willingness of Gerhard Frey, the millionaire publisher, to underwrite the debts of the German People's Union that has made it a real factor in German politics. From his Munich villa, Herr Frey has been masterminding the party's campaign. In eastern Germany, telegraph poles, lampposts and walls are being plastered with a DVU poster declaring: "Germans, don't let yourselves be milked dry."

The aim is to deliver a DVU leaflet to every German household by election day. A particular target are football fans who have leaflets pushed into their hands as they enter the stadium.

Herr Frey has made his peace with Franz Schönhuber, the erstwhile chief of the Republicans and a former member of the Waffen SS. He is by far the most popular politician on the right-wing fringe and he has agreed to be the figurehead of the DVU in the campaign.

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An Indonesian police unit formed last month to deal with women rioters parading in Jakarta this week. Fresh unrest was reported from the country yesterday when the military halted the withdrawal of combat troops from the troubled province of Aceh on Sumatra after riots left two dead and at least a dozen wounded

NEWS IN BRIEF

Students in Rangoon protest

Rangoon: Thousands of students protested against the Burma junta yesterday in the biggest such demonstrations in nearly two years as political tensions boiled over. They demanded the end of military government prompting riot police to cordon-off campuses.

Cigarette killing

Tarbes: A French police officer was in custody yesterday after shooting dead a man who asked for a cigarette. Eric Ben Fatima, 31, died after being hit by three bullets fired by Alain Marty. (AFP)

Iraqi threat

Baghdad: Iraq is threatening to take new, unspecified steps if the Security Council adopts a proposal by Britain and America to suspend regular reviews of trade sanctions against Baghdad. (Reuters)

Iran mock battle

Tehran: About 70,000 Iranian troops and tanks staged attacks on mock enemy positions just 40 miles from the border with Afghanistan as tensions rose between the two nations. (Reuters)

Deputy sacked

Kuala Lumpur: Mahathir Mohamad, the Malaysian Prime Minister, sacked Anwar Ibrahim, his deputy, a day after the Government rejected the latter's free-market views. (Reuters)

Maternity suit

Boston: A woman who said she was too upset to get an abortion after running from a clinic shooting has sued for "wrongful birth", saying the clinic should help to pay for the child's upkeep. (AP)

'Dreyfus' jailed in error goes free

FROM BEN MACINTYRE
IN PARIS

OMAR RADDAD, a 36-year-old Moroccan gardener who was jailed for the murder of his wealthy employer, will be freed tomorrow on the orders of the French Justice Ministry. His release will end a case that has been widely condemned as a miscarriage of justice.

Mr Raddad was sentenced to 18 years in prison in 1994 for the killing of Ghislaine Marchal, 65, in her Riviera mansion in 1991. The conviction has been criticised ever since as unsound and possibly tainted by racism. In Morocco, Mr Raddad's case has been compared to that of Alfred Dreyfus, the Jewish army officer unfairly convicted of treason in France in 1894.

The gardener's conviction was based mainly on a message scrawled in blood in the cellar where his employer's body was found: *Omar ma tué* (Omar killed me). Defence lawyers argued that the grammatical error in the message, using the infinitive *tué* rather than the past participle *tué*, meant it could not have been written by a highly educated woman and that Mr Raddad had been framed.

Under pressure from King Hassan of Morocco, President Chirac signed a partial pardon in 1996 that cut his sentence by nearly five years but left open the issue of his guilt or innocence.

30p THE TIMES

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0800 376

سكنا من الاصل

Communists' drums of war haunt Yeltsin

AT NO time since October 1993, when Boris Yeltsin ordered tanks to bombard his parliament, the Congress of People's Deputies, into submission, has Russia looked closer to civil war.

Five years ago, crisis was averted. Then, as now, the President was locked into a test of strength with his legislature. Then, after a tantalising few hours while the generals decided who to support, Mr Yeltsin prevailed. This time, he cannot be so sure.

There are no tanks on the streets of Moscow today and, despite alarmist reports from people such as Viktor Ilyukhin, the Communist chairman of the Duma security committee, that troops are on alert, the barracks remain closed. Mr Yeltsin has vowed that he will not go against the Constitution: his opponents have done likewise. The political crisis could still be resolved through negotiation and compromise.

But Russians reading *Kommersant Daily*, the main business newspaper, yesterday could be forgiven for getting a different impression. A front-page editorial, running alongside a huge picture of Gennadi Zyuganov, the Communist Party leader and under a banner headline: "Zyuganov ready for war", proclaimed that Russia was on the brink of civil conflict.

The newspaper said that Mr Zyuganov's categorical insistence that his party would continue to reject Viktor Chernomyrdin, Mr Yeltsin's candidate for Prime Minister, through the second and third rounds of voting amounted to a declaration of war by the left-wing opposition.

"The time of bargaining is over. That was the conclusion of Tuesday's meeting of the Duma Council, which itself more closely resembles a council of war. The left majority has adopted a strategic decision: no concessions, no Chernomyrdin," the editorial said.

Mr Zyuganov has himself accused Mr Yeltsin of pushing the country towards civil war through his obduracy and urged him to propose a different candidate to the Duma. Names that have emerged include Yegor Stroyev, the moderate chairman of the

Leader who stood against coup cannot count on army now, writes Robin Lodge

Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, or Yuri Luzhkov, the Mayor of Moscow.

Mr Yeltsin's advisers are also urging him to drop Mr Chernomyrdin. But for him to do so would be a humiliating climbdown, his first political defeat at Mr Zyuganov's hands. Last Sunday, he was willing even to cede some of his key powers in exchange for his man's approval. Only a last-minute change of heart by the Communists, whose lust for blood even took their allies unawares, prevented the deal from going through.

If the two sides stick to their guns over the next few days, the consequences could be calamitous. The Communists, aware that a third-round rejection of Mr Chernomyrdin would lead to Mr Yeltsin dissolving parliament and calling new elections — or even imposing a state of emergency — could seek to pre-empt him by initiating long-threatened impeachment proceedings. Once this process has begun, the President cannot dissolve parliament.

Mr Yeltsin is unlikely to sit and wait for this to happen. He has nothing to gain from waiting for a third-round vote if it is going to go against him. Instead, he could simply apply

his constitutional powers to dissolve the Duma immediately, or after the second-round vote tomorrow, and call a state of emergency.

The question then would be whether the legislature would meekly submit or defy him. If it refused to be dissolved, the chances are that it would get tremendous support from a population that has suffered far too much over the past seven years to believe Mr Yeltsin or the Government any more.

If tens or even hundreds of thousands of people flocked to Moscow from the provinces to defend parliament — as they did to support Mr Yeltsin during the putsch of 1993, the President will be forced to call in the troops, if only to preserve order.

But before he can take such a step, he must first work out whether the army would support him. As President, he is commander-in-chief and a refusal by the military to obey his orders would amount to mutiny.

But Mr Yeltsin has few friends in the army. His plans for military reform, coupled with the appalling underfunding that the army has suffered over the past few years and the humiliation of its defeat in Chechnya, has caused widespread, bitter resentment.

The so-called military opposition, led by disgruntled former generals such as Aleksandr Lebed and the late Lev Rokhlin, makes up the most credible opposition force in the country.

Mr Lebed has frequently, if at times melodramatically, issued a warning that the army is in a revolutionary mood. He



President Clinton meets Aleksandr Lebed yesterday and, below, Mr Yeltsin on top of an armoured personnel carrier during the 1993 putsch

is doubtful that it would rally behind the President.

"All Russian citizens greatly dislike the Duma today, but they dislike Yeltsin even more," Mr Lebed said last night. "If Yeltsin does anything drastic, everyone will rush to save parliament."

In October 1993, Mr Yeltsin's victory was mainly assured by the intervention on his behalf of two crack Interior Ministry divisions. The Kantemirovskaya Tank Division, based at Naroforninsk, 40 miles southwest of Moscow, and the Tamanskaya Motorised Infantry Division, based in Goltysno, 20 miles west of the capital, sent tanks and armoured vehicles to surround the White House, while crack Alfa units of the Presidential Guard fought off attempts by the rebels to take over the Ostankino television centre.

Further support came later from the 119th Airborne Division, based in Ryazan, the Tula Airborne Landing Division and the 27th Motorised Infantry Brigade in Topyly Stan, southeast Moscow.

Again, in the event of military intervention, it would be the units based in and around Moscow that would play the

crucial role, allowing the troops in the outlying military districts to wait and see how things turned out. And like last time, the army would wait to see how the interior troops fared before coming in themselves.

But according to Pavel Felgenhauer, defence editor of *Segodnya*, Mr Yeltsin can no longer count on any support from either the Kantemirovskaya or the Tamanskaya: "They hate his guts. They wouldn't lift a finger to save him." The same applied to the paratroops, who would be seeking a lead from a figure such as Mr Lebed, before deciding which side to take.

Mr Felgenhauer doubted whether even the Presidential Guard would do much to help Mr Yeltsin. He said: "Their first loyalty is to the KGB and the KGB is not too fond of Yeltsin. Professionally speaking, they would defend the Kremlin, but they would not take orders to go out and beat up pensioners. In the end they would be about as much use to Yeltsin as the Iranian Imperial Guard was to the Shah."

On the other hand, the Russian Army has traditionally remained loyal to the established power, however

reluctantly. The political impasse could not continue for long and the army would not stay in barracks if rioting broke out on the streets. In such circumstances, commanders would be faced with the choice of supporting Mr Yeltsin, his parliamentary opponents or a third figure such as Mr Lebed, who might just step in as the self-proclaimed saviour of Russia. For that to happen without bloodshed or a shot being fired is scarcely conceivable.

Leading article and letters, page 21 Norman Stone, page 20



Crisis boosts Lebed Allies sign early warning deal

By Robin Lodge

From Richard Beeston in Moscow

ALEKSANDR LEBED, the popular former paratroop general recently elected Governor of the vast Siberian region of Krasnoyarsk, has long given warnings about possible unrest in the beleaguered Russian forces. Now, with Russia in the grip of an economic and political crisis, people are listening.

Mr Lebed has made no secret of his political ambitions. He ran on a law-and-order ticket in the 1996 presidential elections, coming third in the first round, before throwing his support behind Boris Yeltsin, thus ensuring the latter's victory against Gennadi Zyuganov, the unre-

formed Communist in the second round.

General Lebed was rewarded with the job of National Security Adviser, but he was too outspoken to last long in office. While he succeeded in bringing to an end the war in Chechnya, he was vilified for selling out Russia, and was subsequently sacked.

Since becoming Governor of Krasnoyarsk, Russia's main source of plutonium, he has secured a base for the presidential elections in 2000. He has also started building political alliances with Viktor Chernomyrdin, the nominated Prime Minister. The two share views on many issues.

BRITAIN and America yesterday announced plans for greater sharing of early warning intelligence with Russia, amid fears that the country's weakened military could mistakenly believe it was under missile attack from the West.

At the end of their summit in Moscow, President Yeltsin and President Clinton signed two arms control agreements, one to improve information about missile testing and the other to cut by 50 tonnes each country's stockpile of plutonium, which could be used to make thousands of nuclear warheads. Although the deals were relatively modest by the standards of the huge arms

cuts negotiated in the 1990s, American officials placed great importance on early warning co-operation.

In December 1995, a Norwegian scientific rocket, fired off the country's northern coast, caused Russia to believe that it was under missile attack. For a few tense minutes Russia's vast nuclear forces were placed on alert. Since then its ability to monitor its huge borders has weakened, in part because of cuts to the armed forces and also because of the loss of key listening posts.

Under the American-Russian agreement, each side will give the other continuous information about launches of

any long-range or short-range missiles and space vehicles. Initially the information will be sent to each side's early warning centres, but in the future a joint liaison centre may be staffed by American and Russian officers.

"The agreement today on early warning sharing is especially relevant at a time when Russia's early warning system is under stress from budget difficulties, systems failures and the closure of early warning radars on the soil of nations outside Russia," said Robert Bell, a national security adviser to Mr Clinton. The Ministry of Defence said Britain would also contribute.

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Airlines in US enforce 'no nut' zones

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE American Government's Department of Transportation has taken steps to eliminate a little known fear of flying: peanuts.

It has told all large American airlines that they must set aside seats in a "peanut-free zone" when requested to do so by passengers with peanut allergies. Some airline executives thought the idea was a joke — or a bureaucracy gone nutty — when they first heard of it.

The department decided there was a need to accommodate peanut allergy sufferers after reviewing a law passed in 1986 that guarantees access to planes for the disabled.

One solution is for airlines to stop serving peanuts, as American Airlines has already done on most flights. If not, they must provide peanut-free buffer zones on flights on request, when they are given advance notice, to passengers who have medically documented severe peanut allergies.

A buffer zone consists of a minimum of the passenger's row and the row immediately in front and behind, meaning that even passengers who do not have an allergy will be denied peanuts if they are sitting there.

The American Peanut Council was none too happy. Julie Adams, a council executive, said they hoped the policy would be enforced consistently and would not deny peanuts to the majority of passengers.

Lewinsky scandal still dogs Clinton at home

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW AND BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

PRESSURE at home continued to mount on President Clinton yesterday as the Monica Lewinsky scandal followed the US leader to the Kremlin.

Mr Clinton's troubles deepened as Ms Lewinsky's lawyers said she had given a third sworn statement to Kenneth Starr, the independent prosecutor, on the details of her affair with the President. She was asked to describe their sexual acts in more detail to establish whether there were conflicts with Mr Clinton's testimony, reports said.

Speaking in Moscow at his first press conference since making the televised address when he admitted an affair, Mr Clinton said he regretted any hurt he had caused but wanted to get back to work.

"I have acknowledged that I made a mistake, said that I regretted it, asked to be forgiven, spent a lot of valuable time with my family in the last couple of weeks and said I was going back to work," he said, as President Yeltsin looked on impassively. "I believe that is what the people want me to do and, based on my conversations with leaders around the world, I think that's what they want me to do and that is what I intend to do."

Critics said Mr Clinton's televised *mea culpa* did not go far enough in apologising for his sexual misdeeds. Yesterday, he promised that he would continue "the personal process" of making amends for his affair, but insisted he had conveyed his "profound regret to all who were hurt".

However, after being asked a second question about the scandal, he lost patience, saying that most reasonable people would think it had consumed "a disproportionate amount of American time, money and resources."

A federal judge in Arkansas has hinted that she could find Mr Clinton in contempt of court for his misleading testimony in the Paula Jones sexual harassment case. Judge Susan Webber Wright added that she would release the videotaped statement Mr Clinton made on January 17, together with Mrs Jones's statement, believed to include a description of the "distinguishing characteristics" of Mr Clinton's genitals.

Mr Clinton received an unexpected boost from a confession by Dan Burton, a Republican congressman and one of the President's harshest critics, during the Lewinsky scandal. Mr Burton, 60, hinted strongly to his Indiana constituents this week that he had been unfaithful to his wife during their troubled 38-year marriage, apparently in an attempt to pre-empt an expose by *Vanity Fair*.



Mike Beasley flees his home with two of his horses to escape a bush fire in Santiago Canyon, east of Los Angeles yesterday. Fires have blackened 30,000 acres and damaged dozens of homes in what is predicted to be the region's worst fire season in years. At least six big and several smaller fires are raging over a wide area

America insists factory was gas producer

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE Pentagon and CIA have launched a spirited response to critics who accuse the United States of bombing a harmless pharmaceutical factory in Sudan.

At briefings here, officials insisted that the factory was involved in a secret chemical weapons programme. President Clinton ordered the raid in retaliation for vehicle bombs that destroyed US embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam. Those attacks were linked to Osama bin Laden whose camps in Afghanistan were also bombed.

William Cohen, the Secretary of Defence, and George Tenet, the CIA director, told 42 senators at a secret briefing that America had strong evidence to justify the Sudan attack. They asserted that tests of a soil sample obtained from outside the factory by a CIA spy showed a high concentration of *Empta*, a chemical used in the manufacture of VX nerve gas.

But James Woolsey, Mr Clinton's former CIA director, was not convinced. He said: "This should not be the kind of decision made only with three or four people around you of Cabinet-level who don't know an *Empta* sample from their left foot."

James Bond is licensed to sell

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN BEVERLY HILLS

FIVE Leatherette bikinis worn by Octopussy's henchwomen in the Bond film of the same name will be auctioned later this month and are expected to fetch up to £375 each. They could be a bargain: two identical pairs went under the hammer less than a year ago with estimates of up to £900 apiece.

Intimate apparel is the unacknowledged theme of the first auction devoted exclusively to Bondabilia, to be held at Christie's in London after a week-long preview in Los Angeles.

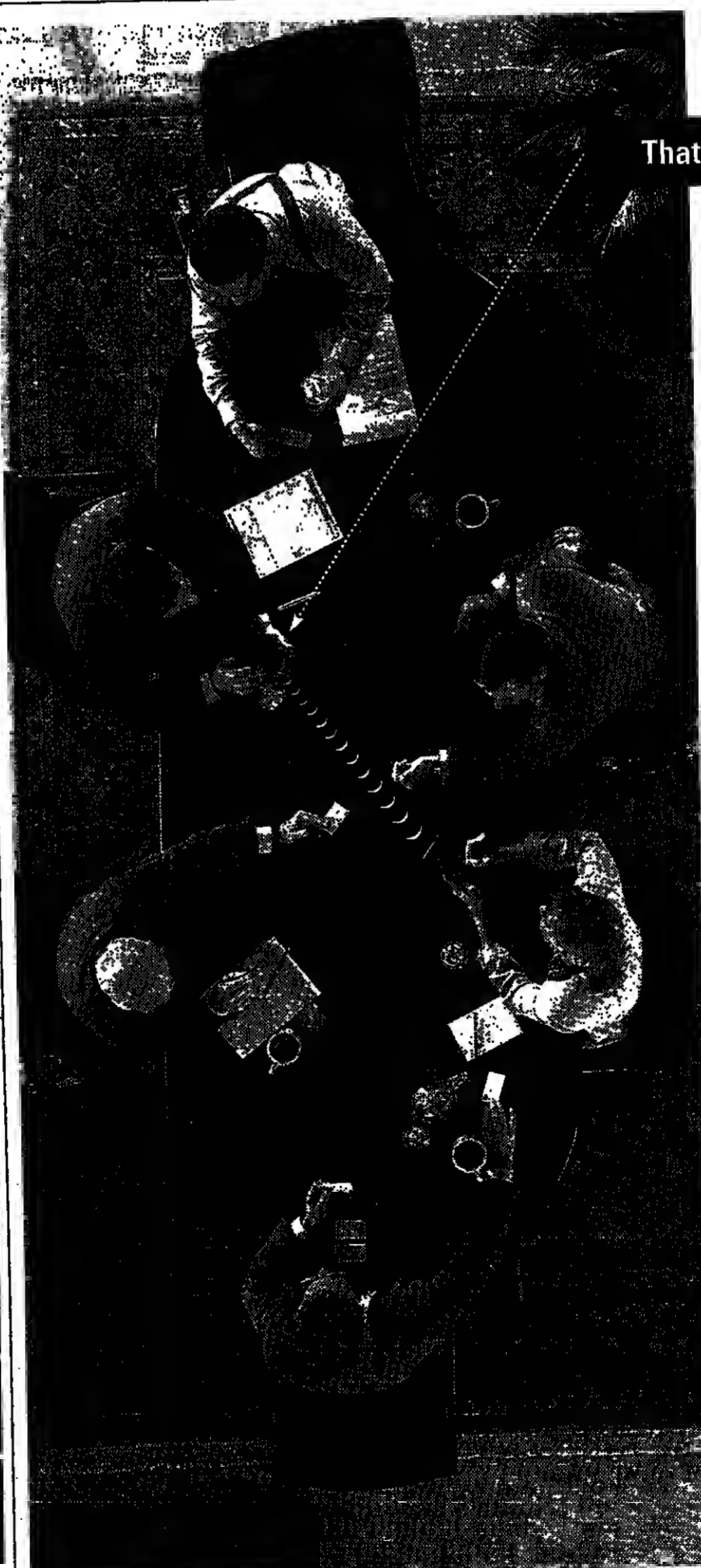
Besides the combat bikinis — stretched and a little faded since the film's 1983 release — enthusiasts will compete for a sheer silk binuse worn by Maryam d'Abo in *The Living Daylights* (£300-500) and a pencil skirt tailored for Miss Moneybags (Caroline Bliss) in the same film.

Lot 225 is more peculiar: a pair of frilly pink imitation lace knickers which Christie's admits Shirley Eaton did not wear in her love scene with Sean Connery in *Goldfinger*, but which are said to be identical to those she wore. Presumably made for Marks & Spencer, they boast a 1964 vintage and a £200-300 estimate.



A poster for *Dr No*, one of the many items for sale at the first Christie's auction of 007 memorabilia

Anything linked to Mr Bond himself is more expensive. A magnetised watch used by Roger Moore to unzip an Italian evening gown in *Live and Let Die* is expected to fetch £4,000-6,000, while an amphibious Lotus from *The Spy Who Loved Me* could go for four times as much. Neither comes stripped of everything but its face and a miniature circular saw, and the car is a mere shell of its submarine form.



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Dr Thomas Stuttaford reports on how to withdraw from Prozac safely; Rothermere's death; the elderly and sea cruises; why some children are born with calluses; and sensitivity to aspirin

Cold turkey in the Arctic

When Liza Helps was 1500 miles north of Montreal and walking across Baffin Island in the Arctic Circle, she lost her Prozac. She doesn't know whether it disappeared down some crevasse or now lies buried in the snow. However it happened, the medication which miraculously lifted her mood and had given a level approach to life, had now gone. Baffin Island

Lisa was aware that heavy exercise could help her

est in her condition and its treatment. In her case she wasn't only helped by Prozac, her response to which she described as "terrific", but also by cognitive therapy, which she found "massively helpful".

Liza knew that suddenly discontinuing antidepressant treatment can have serious consequences. She also knew that these symptoms only affected about a third of patients and that Prozac was less likely than other drugs of this group to produce it because it is metabolised very slowly in the body. Liza was so knowledgeable that she was also aware that patients who take very heavy exercise are also less likely to suffer the antidepressant discontinuation syndrome.

While Liza was dragging a sled for eight hours a day, there was always some excitement and, as she hauled her load, she wondered whether this exertion would produce enough endorphins, naturally produced opiate-like chemicals, to counteract any possible antidepressant withdrawal syndrome. Either the endorphins or the long half-life of Prozac did; she had no side-effects and the depression hasn't returned.

The antidepressant withdrawal syndrome occurs with either the SSRI drugs, but not usually with Prozac, or with the older tricyclic antidepressants. It is because of this syndrome that doctors emphasise

to patients the importance of tailing off all antidepressant treatment. Few patients lose their pills in Arctic snow; usually, the syndrome is induced by abruptly leaving off treatment because they feel well, or because they have forgotten to pack them when travelling.

Last year doctors from the Mental Health Research Institute in Michigan reported in the journal of *International Clinical Psychopharmacology* on the antidepressant withdrawal syndrome after discontinuing tricyclic antidepressant therapy. Simultaneously, other doctors from the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston wrote on the syndrome in the *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, after discontinuation of serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SHT inhibitors). The Boston doctors emphasised that the symptoms were unlikely if Prozac had been prescribed.

Patients with the syndrome fall ill about three days after taking the last dose. They complain of dizziness and lightheadedness, nausea and vomiting, lethargy, joint pains, chills and flu-like symptoms. Sleep may be upset and they may experience strange neurological symptoms, sometimes as if shocks are being passed through their limbs, and there may be a resumption of their depressive state, with anxiety, irritation, tears and irritability. The symptoms only last for a few days and are easily treated if the correct diagnosis is made, by a return to the antidepressant treatment which may then be tapered off. Symptoms of the syndrome are so diffuse that they have resulted in patients being subjected to



Cruising may seem a perfect holiday for older travellers, but life at sea can present the less agile with many hazards

Why the elderly can cruise into danger

ELDERLY patients often opt for a holiday cruise as, at first sight it, provides a relaxing, resident care and a changing scene. The less agile can, it is suggested, go to remote parts of the world and still be protected from the climatic extremes.

Cruising is undeniably less dangerous than hurtling down the French motorways but it is not without its own hazards. Dr Iain McIntosh, a lecturer in travel health at the University of Glasgow, has made a particular study of sea cruising for the elderly traveller in the journal *Geriatric Medicine*.

Cruise travellers may not have to brave the motorway, but ships are unstable platforms as they pitch and roll, and this makes the long passageways and stairways perilous. The gangways in particular become slippery and wet in rough weather. Quays are greasy, and not all septuagenarians are good at descending over the side of a ship and leaping on to a floating bridge likewise negotiating the variable gap between a ship and tender can be daunting.

In port the patients are confronted by diseases they would never have met in Tambridge Wells. Medically, the ships are well equipped but not to the level of an intensive care unit. The usual practice is to disembark a seriously ill passenger. If they are in luck, and insured, they may find themselves in some sumptuously equipped American hospital; if in a more remote area, in a small hospital on a Caribbean island.

As well as carrying out a realistic assessment of their health, travellers must have the necessary inoculations, carry their drugs with them and have a copy of their recent medical history.

Liza is back from her walk and is cheerful and relaxed. She was part of David Hempleman-Adams's Arctic trek, and collected thousands of pounds, an appreciable part of which was donated by readers of *The Times* for a charity, *Remedi*, which raises money for medical research.

Liza's adventurous life is particularly interesting as for many years she suffered from severe depression. Her perfectionist nature kept her going but even this created problems as it meant that she set herself targets which could be unrealistic. Whatever the cause, whether genetic or environmental or, as is usually the case, a mixture of the two, she became severely depressed, sleepless by night and tormented by feelings of hopelessness by day. As with many patients, Liza takes a keen inter-

many unpleasant and expensive investigations. Patients have had MRI scans and endoscopes in a vain effort to see why they were suffering. The psychiatric symptoms have led doctors to believe that their patient is one of the 14 per cent of depressed people who need

long-term therapy. After initially making a great recovery, they have been put back on antidepressants and left on them unnecessarily for years.

Remedi, The Old Rectory, Stanton Prior, Bath, BA2 9HT. 01761 472662

Reducing stress that can lead to death

VISCOUNT ROTHERMERE'S sudden death has shocked not only his family, friends and those who worked with him, but also his readers, who have been intrigued by his opinions on the *Government of this country and the workings of the newspaper world*.

The proprietor of the *Daily Mail*, *The Mail on Sunday* and *London Evening Standard* apparently died from a heart attack. It is impossible to predict all those who are at risk from such a fate; some people with minimal obstruction to their coronary arteries may die suddenly if a plaque of atheroma, the fatty substance that looks like porridge and coats the inside of the artery wall, suddenly breaks loose. Doctors are, however, getting better at recognising the factors that may induce an attack in those known to have coronary heart disease.

Such people should be taking a beta-blocker unless there is a definite contra-indication to this type of medication. Research published recently shows that this reduces the likelihood of another heart attack by 40 per cent. They should also be taking aspirin in small quantities every day and, ideally, two glasses of alcohol, preferably red wine, but other drinks are also helpful. Their behaviour should be geared to reduce sudden stress. Many years ago, I was fortunate to travel the countryside with Airey Neave, the late Northern Ireland spokesman for the Conservative Party, as part of a select committee. Our programme often involved split-second timings but he always refused to hurry.

Dashing for a plane or train can be particularly stressful as it combines sudden physical exertion with the anxiety of wondering whether the traveller will make it. Rushing for a theatre has a similar effect as does nipping hazily across a busy street.

The dangers of extremes of climate for those with cardiovascular disease are well known. Hot, clammy weather can expose potential weaknesses. But the greatest increase in the death rate is associated with cold weather. Schoolboy lore should be forgotten and windows kept shut — inhaling cold air can induce angina even when a person is tucked under a duvet. Central heating should be left on at night. Hard physical exertion on very cold days is especially dangerous — let somebody else chop the

logs or fetch the coal. Climbing into a car that has been left out in freezing temperatures all night is as taxing on the coronary arteries as spending ten minutes in the deep freeze.

Dr Graham Jackson, in his recently published book *Heart Health at Your Fingertips*, discusses ways of reducing stress, such as going for a walk at lunchtime. Cardiac patients need to learn that they cannot solve all life's problems themselves, and should also rid themselves of the guilt of thinking that they have caused them. The potential victim should avoid overcommitment and learn to turn down appointments. Dr Jackson also suggests that, as well as choosing a careful diet, keeping the blood pressure low, giving up smoking and having regular exercise, people should develop interests. He poses the question that if this were the last day of your life, would you choose to spend it gesticulating at other drivers, swearing at parking-meter attendants or shouting at railway officials? Anger is the most corrosive of the emotions in its ability to increase heart strain. Avoid contact with irritating people; instead write them a letter, then tear it up before posting it.

Heart Health at Your Fingertips by Dr Graham Jackson, Class Publishing, £14.99

Too sensitive for aspirin

A READER has kindly contacted *The Times* about our advocacy of aspirin. Aspirin not only relieves headaches, joint pains and toothache but is very effective in preventing coronary heart disease. And in slightly bigger doses it is the first-aid treatment for a coronary thrombosis. Aspirin reduces the incidence of cancers and Alzheimer's disease and, it is now reported, may offer some protection against cancer of the colon.

Our reader warns us that aspirin does have some disadvantages. Most people are aware that it may cause intestinal bleeding but he claims that few know that it can occasionally cause anaphylactic shock in sensitive people just as surely as peanuts or bee stings.

Aspirin sensitivity is comparatively rare. The people most likely to suffer from aspirin sensitivity are patients who suffer from nasal polyps and asthma. Others who may experience an allergy to aspirin are also frequently allergic to food dyes such as tartrazine. Patients who collapse after being given aspirin are particularly likely to be middle-aged and female and to have a family history of allergies including, of course, asthma and hay fever.

An island's ancient curse that is only skin deep

DOCTORS can be guaranteed to think up a confusing Greek or Latin term to describe a common sign or symptom. Few people know that a callus, or corn, is technically known as a tylosis — a thickening in the skin on the hands and feet where manual labour has hardened the surface.

In some parts of the world, small children are born with calluses on their palms and soles. One such place is the Drkney island of Stronsay, where Dr John Buchan is the doctor. He believes the condition, known as tylosis, might have been introduced to Stronsay from The Netherlands when the two places were linked economically by the herring industry.

In most places tylosis is an ominous sign because 95 per cent of those affected develop a

fatal cancer of the gullet before they are 65. Fortunately, in Stronsay there is no increase in this form of cancer.

A legend is reported in *GP* magazine that 150 years ago one Barbara Fotheringham prayed when pregnant that her child might be born with a sign that it was going to be rich. Her son was indeed marked — he had calluses on his palms and soles. It is not recorded whether he ever made a fortune or not, but the "curse of the Fotheringhams" has beset Stronsay ever since.

For generation after generation, some people on the island have had callused palms all their lives. The skin of the palms may be so thick that they can grasp a red-hot poker without feeling pain, albeit that the room then smells like a smithy.



The late Lord Rothermere

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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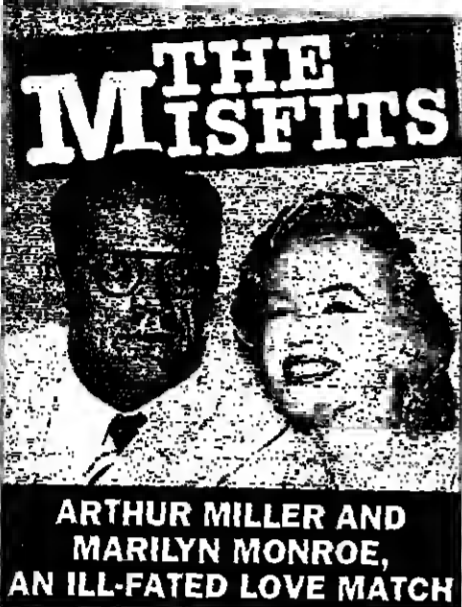
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The end of the honeymoon



ARTHUR MILLER AND MARILYN MONROE, AN ILL-FATED LOVE MATCH

Drink, drugs and the loss of two longed-for children helped to cause the disintegration of the marriage between Miller and Monroe, Barbara Leaming reveals in the third extract from her new book

Marilyn's belief in her ability to become a serious actress had been badly shaken, if not destroyed. *The Prince and the Showgirl* seemed to have killed something in her.

Having lost one dream, she was terrified of losing her marriage as well. In New York she did everything possible to ensure that did not happen. She struggled to be, as one of Miller's lawyers fondly called her, "Mrs Arthur". She would create a perfect home. She would make it possible for her husband to write. She would be at his side throughout his political troubles. Above all, she would give him a baby.

In a hopeful mood, the Millers spent the summer on Long Island, in a brown-shingled house in Amagansett. By then Marilyn was pregnant. On the morning of August 1 she was working in the cottage garden. Suddenly she was overcome with pain and she fell. Miller ran out. They were more than 100 miles from New York City but Marilyn felt that if she could see her regular doctor, the baby might be saved.

It was noon before they reached Doctors Hospital. Marilyn was wheeled in on a stretcher. Dr Hilliard Dubrow wanted to operate immediately — she had had an ectopic pregnancy. The baby could not be saved; the pregnancy had to be terminated.

Marilyn, terribly depressed, stayed in hospital for ten days. The doctor's opinion that she might be able to have a child

later did not reassure her. Miller was constantly at her side but Marilyn seemed sure that he would abandon her now. Although it was all in her mind, Miller was desperate to show her how he felt about her.

Marilyn was released on August 10. During the drive to Amagansett she and Miller hardly spoke. He could think of nothing to say to comfort her. Soon after she arrived home Marilyn took an overdose of sleeping pills. Miller found her collapsed in a chair, her breathing irregular. That sound would become terrifyingly familiar, but now he needed a moment to grasp what it meant. He phoned for help, saving her life.

In hope of giving Marilyn a gift, Miller began work on *The Misfits*. The author of *Death of a Salesman* intuitively knew the importance of retaining one's dream. Perhaps he could write a script that would enable Marilyn to live up to her ideals. He borrowed in his studio all day. He had not worked in such a sustained fashion since the marriage began. Knowing the degree to which she valued and protected his work, how could Marilyn fail to see that writing a screenplay for her was his way of publicly declaring his faith in her?

But spending hours away from her may have been the worst thing to do. At a time when she most feared rejection, their days apart could only have felt like confirmation that he was withdrawing.

Miller wrote *The Misfits* at a feverish pace. He seemed to be

writing against death, as though his words could save Marilyn. But the idealised portrait of her he was writing — a picture of the woman he'd fallen in love with — was also an attempt to hold on to his own image of Marilyn. On a conscious level *The Misfits* may have been intended to show Marilyn he loved her; but in a deeper sense, he seemed to be trying to convince himself.

Soon he had pages to show her. As she read, he watched and listened. Marilyn laughed out loud reading about the cowboys. But her reaction to Roslyn was not what Miller expected. She was cautious, unenthusiastic. Miller sincerely believed that in creating Roslyn he had done something wonderful for Marilyn, but she didn't act as though he had. She wouldn't even commit to appearing in *The Misfits*. No wonder he later admitted to having been hurt.

What accounts for her response? Marilyn believed that for Miller to love her, he had to accept the monster inside her. His idealisation of her suggested that he wanted to pretend it didn't exist. In addition, Marilyn had read many scripts over the years. Did she see flaws in her husband's screenplay? If Miller had written a stage play for her, it would have been different: the film was his domain. But with film he was no longer the teacher, she no longer the pupil. Now she was in a position to judge, to criticise, even to reject what he had written.

In writing a screenplay, Miller made it possible for Marilyn to suspect his motives. Had he offered her a stage play, there could have been no doubt that he was doing it for her, providing an entrée into his world. He would have been conferring his prestige as a playwright upon her.

As it was, he needed Marilyn's prestige to get *The Misfits* made. Whatever his intentions, there was at least the appearance that an ambitious husband was cashing in on his movie-star wife.

Meanwhile, the studio knew that Marilyn had lost her baby, and there were disturbing reports from New York that she wasn't well. Her day began with a Bloody Mary, or she might wash down eggs with champagne.

In April 1958 Marilyn agreed to do *Some Like It Hot*. She sought herself to play the ukelele, and as Miller worked in his study, her baby voice wafted through the apartment singing *I Wanna Be Loved By You*, from the movie. At other times she seized her. Weeping, she pleaded with Miller not to send her to Hollywood. He tried to reassure her. But in doing so, he inadvertently said the one thing certain to plunge her into a deeper terror — that it was up to her to make the film a success.

At a party at the Strasbergs' house Marilyn loudly ordered Miller to get her mink coat. The guests were theatre people; among them Miller was seen as one of America's finest postwar playwrights. When he obediently went for the coat a horrified guest said: "How can you talk to that man that way? It's degrading." Marilyn's tone was cool: "You think I shouldn't have talked to him like that? Then why didn't he slap me? He should have slapped me."

The honeymoon was over. Marilyn's idealisation of Miller seemed to have turned to contempt. The shift appeared to hinge on his efforts to write and sell *The Misfits*. Meanwhile, he was in a state of perpetual apprehension as Marilyn veered between extremes.

Miller seemed to be cashing in on his movie-star wife

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Miller seemed to be cashing in on his movie-star wife

She lashed out one moment and wept that she was ignoring her next. She was desperate to have his baby. She was eager to make a real home with him in Connecticut.

At the same time, Marilyn attacked him where he was most vulnerable, assaulting his status as a writer. Her initial lack of enthusiasm for *The Misfits* had become overt, strident criticism. She disparaged it to others, and her complaints were devastatingly on target. She was correct that it had to be rewritten; it was talky, thin on character and action. Yet she did not seem sincerely interested in fixing the script; her real purpose seemed to be to vent her rage at her husband.

The director of *Some Like It Hot*, Billy Wilder, sincerely admired her comic sense and treated her as someone who knew what she was talking about. But she seemed not to notice that Wilder was genuinely interested in what she had to say. Perhaps she just didn't care any more.

Soon she was up to her old

tricks. She came to work late. She hadn't learnt her lines. Her tendency to botch the simplest dialogue irritated the other actors. And no sooner did the director yell "Cut!" than she shouted "Coffee!" — an assistant would then produce a red Thermo, out of which she sipped vermouth all day.

Marilyn taunted Miller — she French-kissed Tony Curtis and when she introduced her husband to the gregarious journalist James Bacon she cooed suggestively: "Jim and I used to be real close."

Marilyn finished the film on November 7. Twelve hours later it looked as though she were about to miscarry. She was rushed to hospital. There was no miscarriage but the doctors warned her to stop the pills and drinking — the baby was in danger. After a week of rest at the Bel Air Hotel, Marilyn was taken by ambulance to the airport for the flight home. On East 57th Street a gift awaited her — a miniature cradle with a toy baby, a present from her maid. Marilyn burst into tears of gratitude.

But soon the old fears and suspicions beset her. Part of the problem seemed to be finding Miller in the company of so many men who, as the expression goes, knew her when in her system could end the baby's life at any time. Fearful that exertion might cause a

miscarriage, she stayed in bed, nervously playing with the cradle, which she had placed on the pillow beside her.

As Miller worked in his study one day, he heard Marilyn scream. The pain was excruciating. She wept that she was going to lose the baby. Miller accompanied her in an ambulance to the hospital. That night, he returned to the apartment alone.

Marilyn held herself responsible for the baby's death. She had known that her addictions could harm it, and had ignored those warnings. She was convinced that she had killed her own daughter. When she came home and saw the cradle next to her mother's picture she threw it on the floor and wept uncontrollably.

Miller seemed to be cashing in on his movie-star wife

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Monroe and Miller leaving the hospital after her miscarriage in August 1957. Soon afterwards, he began to write *The Misfits* to show his faith in her

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TOMORROW Marilyn has an affair with one of cinema's greats. Can her marriage to Miller survive? A handful of reasons to choose General Accident Direct. FREEPHONE 0800 121 000

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A return to the bad old Bolsheviks

Norman Stone fears Lebed may be right about Russia

Terminator Two was what the Russian intelligence called General Aleksandr Lebed. And he does have something of a Schwarzenegger quality. He has been an excellent soldier, but he also has political sense and has been quite adept at solving the nationality conflicts that have arisen in the territory of the old Soviet Union in the past few years. Mr Lebed could be Boris Yeltsin's successor if he finds the right backers, and journalists have been waiting to see what he has to say about the present crisis.

He has told President Clinton that the situation is "worse than 1917". Of course this is hyperbole. In 1917, Russia was fighting the First World War and there were six million men under arms. But in a sense Mr Lebed is right: Russia is going through what in Leninist parlance would have been called "a revolutionary situation". The old is dying, and the new has not yet been born. Meanwhile, there is no party that can legitimately run government and yet public finances are running out of control. This goes to the heart of Russia's political problems.

The old is dying and the new has not yet been born

Yeltsin's *Inter-national Herald Tribune* cartoonist, Danziger, suggests that the Russians will soon be inking their own trouble notes. In 1917 this actually happened. The Provisional Government, which had succeeded the abdicated Tsar, could only use the printing press to create money. It did so at such speed that there was no time to print numbers on the notes, and if customers tried to take money from a bank, they had to follow the teller's instructions and ink in the numbers. The reason for this was that the State had no mechanism for taxation, just as happens, more or less, today. There was no way of identifying people's incomes since they kept their own books (if any at all).

An income tax was levied in 1915, and there was an excess profits tax, levied for political reasons. Together these paid roughly for a weekend of the First World War. Indirect taxes were not much help either because, in an extraordinary act of self-denial, the Tsar imposed prohibition in 1914 and thus forfeited the main item of revenue in the country. By 1917 it was impossible to raise money by war loan, because the rouble was inflating so fast.

The same is quite likely to happen now. It will have the predictable effects of a great inflation. Those people who have things to sell will hoard them, in anticipation of higher prices. In the summer of 1917 the banks were even speculating in sugar, vast bags of which were kept in the vaults because it was better collateral than anything else. Wholesalers did the same with flour, provoking bread riots.

The working classes, on whom the war depended, found themselves dealing with increasingly worthless paper money. The State's efforts to reform things made them

The author is Professor of International Relations at Bilkent University, Ankara.

NOW A THING OF THE PAST, OVER, DONE WITH & GONE. — GERRY ADAMS



Half full or half empty?

The worst of the economic crisis is over. Only the hangover remains

After the party comes the hangover. We all know the cliché for stock market crashes and economic downturns. But nobody mentions what happens next. After the hangover comes a dose of aspirin, an hour or two in bed and then a return to normal life, possibly fortified by some cheerful recollections from the party.

August was definitely a bad month for party-goers this year. For merry-makers on Wall Street, for robber barons in Moscow feasting on the booty of Mother Russia and for carousers at the White House, hangover time has certainly arrived. But how bad are the headaches and how long will they last? From the grim tone now fashionable in the media and financial circles, one would imagine that the diagnosis for all the economic and political headaches this summer was not hangover but brain cancer. But looking around the world at the crises that have dominated the headlines, are things really that bad?

Let us begin with the least important of the so-called crises — the supposed collapse of American global leadership connected with the White House sex scandals. I have long taken a sanguine view of these scandals and firmly believe that President Clinton will emerge muddied but unbowed from the quagmire of Washington sleaze. But even supposing that this is wrong, anyone who suggests that America has suffered a serious loss of prestige or power in the world is lacking a sense of history. Never before has one nation dominated the world stage as clearly as America does today. To give just one example, could you imagine one of America's European allies declaring a virtual economic war against the dollar or withdrawing military co-operation from America as de Gaulle did 30 years ago? Mr Clinton may be a bit of a laughing-stock at present, but among other world leaders he probably has more influence and respect than any American President since Eisenhower.

Now consider a less emotive crisis, but one that encapsulates all the others: the plunge in Western stock markets and the threat of global recession. It now seems quite probable that a genuine bear market is in progress. Judging by historical precedents, including 1987, this would imply that share prices will ultimately

fall by at least 35 per cent from their recent peaks.

But even if I could state with absolute certainty that shares would fall by 35 per cent (and, in reality, my opinion about this may be no better than yours), does this really mean that disaster lies ahead? For a start, all the main stock market indices in America and Europe are already some 15 to 20 per cent below the peaks they hit earlier this summer. That means that roughly half the fall which might be expected in an average bear market has already occurred. This does not mean it is sensible to buy shares at today's prices. But it does mean that the stock market is now in a state where the glass can be seen as half empty or half full.

And it means that a large proportion of the psychological and financial damage expected from a bear market is already behind us — yet the world still goes around.

There is another way of seeing that the economic glass is half full, rather than half empty — at least in Britain, America and other Western countries. If one thinks back to 1987, the collapse in stock markets did not presage a recession in America, Britain or any other country. There was a bit of an economic slowdown after 1987 in most countries (though not in Britain) and the same is likely to happen next year. But the global recession that eventually occurred in the 1990s was neither caused, nor foreshadowed, by the Black Monday crash.

The causes of the last recession were completely different in each country. The only factor that they all had in common was that, around the world, inflation was accelerating slightly by the late 1980s, contrary to the predictions of deflation made immediately after the 1987 crash. The invasion of Kuwait briefly shattered business confidence in the United States. In Britain the recession was caused by Nigel Lawson's misjudgments and then hugely aggravated

Anatole Kaletsky

Divided and ruled?

Magnus Linklater on the role of royalty in a devolved Scotland

The Sunday papers arrive late at Balmoral, so the story on the front page of *The Sunday Times*'s Scottish edition may not have come in time to spoil Tony Blair's breakfast. It should, however, have prompted a lively discussion during his morning stroll with the Queen.

The Prince of Wales, the report said, had asked for a meeting with the leader of the Scottish National Party to discuss its plans for the monarchy in an independent Scotland. Mr Blair will doubtless have assured the Queen that the prospect remains a remote one. But with the SNP level-pegging in the polls, this is more than just an exercise for constitutionalists. For Labour, too, the relationship between the Queen and her Scottish subjects is a delicate issue.

It is not that the Scots are republican by instinct. Most recent opinion polls have shown that a majority still favours the monarchy. But one commissioned for Carlton Television last year suggested that 50 per cent were against, with only 46 per cent in favour, and it was quite noticeable that the anniversary of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, was a far more muted affair north of the border than elsewhere. The relationship between the Sovereign and the Scottish people — particularly the young — may well be changing in tune with the new political mood.

The SNP says it would test opinion in a referendum that would ask the electorate whether it wants a "streamlined" Swedish-style monarchy or to take the first steps towards an elected President and a republic. Alex Salmond, the party's leader, has said he favours a monarchy "without the royal prerogative", meaning, presumably, that the Queen would remain head of state, but would be deprived of the last vestiges of her constitutional role. Whether she would readily agree to serve as a purely ceremonial figure in one part of a splintered state is another matter. A more pressing question for Mr Salmond is whether his party will allow him even this concession. At least one of his fellow MPs, Roseanna Cunningham, and a large swath of his supporters, are avowed republicans. At the SNP conference this month Mr Salmond's pro-monarchist stand is likely to come under considerable pressure.

Were I a delegate, I might press him on the intriguing question of whether he would, as well as abolishing the royal prerogative, seek to tear up the revolution settlement of 1689 which handed the Crown of Scotland to the Protestant William of Orange and barred the throne to Roman Catholics. The SNP has begun to pick up support from Scottish Catholics who have traditionally been anti-Nationalist. A recent poll showed that a surprising 58 per cent of them would vote "yes" in any referendum on independence, compared to 51 per cent of Protestants. The Catholic vote is especially important in the urban areas of west Scotland, which the SNP has to win if it is to have any chance of power in a new parliament.

So one topic of conversation with the Prince of Wales might be how to fashion a non-denominational monarchy in an independent Scotland. Mr Salmond might find the Prince receptive to this idea since he is on record as saying "I've always felt that the Catholic subjects of the sovereign are equally as important as the Anglican ones". He has promised to be a Defender of Faith, not the Faith, and of course the Park-Bowles family (though not Camilla) are staunchly Catholic.

Enough, then, to occupy a lengthy tête-à-tête between the king-in-waiting and an aspiring Prime Minister, even before the conversation has moved on to the tricky area of land ownership, and the SNP's plans for wholesale reform. It will not be enough for Labour to dismiss all this as irrelevant nonsense. What the Government proposes for the monarchy in a devolved Scotland is not substantially different from Mr Salmond's own plans. With a fixed-term parliament, and a Presiding Officer (or Speaker) to dissolve it, the Queen's role in Scotland will be far less significant than it is for a Westminster government. The Royal Assent is written into the Scotland Bill, but this will be little more than a rubber-stamp. There will be no Scottish Privy Council. Scotland is already well on the way towards a Swedish model, whatever the SNP proposes.

One key question remains for both parties. As Vernon Bogdanov points out in his book *The Monarchy and the Constitution*, the most important function of the Sovereign is a symbolic one. It represents not just the State but the nation. It interprets the country to itself and is the way it expresses itself to the outside world; the ceremony with which it does so is the means by which it distinguishes between what Walter Bagehot called the "efficient" and the "dignified" elements of the constitution.

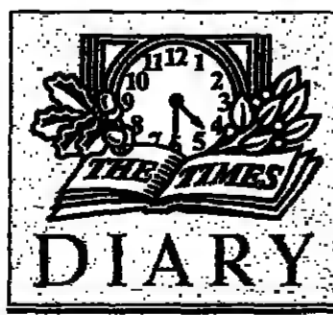
You cannot strip the monarchy of all its clothes and still expect it to carry out the same role as before. The manner in which the Prince's role as future king evolves, whether in the style envisaged by the SNP or that proposed by Labour, will have a deep effect on the way in which the new Scotland presents itself to the world. Sooner or later it will have to decide what kind of a nation it wants to be.

Rhyme & dine

HAS Neil Kinnock found his true calling at last? The European Transport Commissioner is to give a poetry reading next week in London. The venue, however, is far from promising: his recital of love poems will take place in a curry house in Soho. Mind you, for £40 a head, Kinnock's fans will not only be able to enjoy hearing him trying to get his tongue around iambic pentameter but also an east-asian-as-you-can Indian buffet.

The former Labour leader has not yet finalised his poetic selection but thinks it will probably include some Rossetti and Shakespeare's *Sonnet 29*. The bard's words rhyme with Kinnock: "When in disgrace with Fortune and men's eyes, I all alone beweep my outcast state, And trouble deaf heaven with my bootless cries, And look upon myself and curse my fate."

Whether his audience warms to Kinnock as Muse is immaterial: the evening will raise money for one of Glenys's worthy causes. But I recommend avoiding any heckling. Once, on a visit to a curry house in Ealing, Kinnock was accosted by a couple of youths. They soon discovered that they had picked the wrong target after he



remaining true to his family motto: I split asunder obstacles.

A new leaf
A SOCIAL worker has been paid £100,000 for two novels. Jake Arnott, from Buckinghamshire, was signed up by Hodder Headline after its editors read *The London Firm*, a tale of a gay gangster operating in the capital in the Sixties.

His CV contains few literary entries. As well as spells on building sites as a hod-carrier, Arnott has worked as a mortuary technician, sign-language interpreter and a film extra. "I haven't had much of a career structure," he admits. "I once played a mummy on set." Understandably, he handed his notice in yesterday.

● **POOR** Max Hastings. The Editor of the Evening Standard has

had to cut short his summer break following the death of his boss, Lord Rothermere. His attempt at R&R in June was also brought to an abrupt end by the death of Sir David English, Rothermere's number two. The death of Diana, Princess of Wales, again saw him hurrying back to his London newspaper, the *suntan lotion* barely touched. I suggest his passport be impounded immediately.

House moves
LORD DE RAMSEY has a unique approach to conservation in his own back yard. The chairman of the Environment Agency is converting large chunks of his land into a housing estate. He plans to build more than 30 McMansions, with thatched roofs and "large his-and-her principal bedrooms", at a price of £350,000 each.

I am sure his ambitions are entirely in accordance with the agency's charter. The quango is required, among other things, to "contribute to the conservation of nature, landscape and archaeological heritage". Protecting flora and fauna is also within its remit. De Ramsey was appointed by John Major in 1995. Michael Meacher, the Environment Minister, will no doubt be equally impressed by the builder's green credentials when his post comes up for renewal.



THE Buick 8 used by the Prince of Wales while he wooed Wallis Simpson is to be sold this month for between £50,000 and £60,000 by Coys, the auctioneer, in Switzerland. Trimmings include cocktail cabinets, chrome reading lamps and silk blinds for privacy. An appropriate coda in the elegant motor's history is that it also carried King Edward VIII to and from Windsor Castle to make his abdication speech in 1936.

● **DEREK DRAPER'S** summer of shame has foiled to dim his star. I knocked into him the other night merrily rubbing shoulders with Prince Edward at the party to celebrate the merger of the royal jewellers, Asprey & Garrard.

Out of bounds
NEWTON AYCLIFFE is an official secret. A teenager researching

EDWARD WELSH

سكزا من الأصل



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE. September 2: The Duke of York, Admiral of the Sea Cadets Corps, this evening presented the prizes at the Sea Cadet Association Sailing Regatta, Port Solent, Portsmouth Harbour, and was received by Commander Colin Bullock RN (Vice-...

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Gloucester will open the Society of Model and Experimental Engineers (SMEE) centenary exhibition at Brunel University, Uxbridge, at 10.00.

Lister Institute

The Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine has awarded its 1998 five-year senior research fellowships in biomedicine to the following: Dr Joan Hayes, Section of Gene Function and Regulation, Chester Beatty Laboratories, London...

Church in Wales

Disease of Swansea and Brecon. The Rev Howard V. Parnall, Curate of Swansea St Thomas, to be Priest-in-Charge of Swansea, St Jude's and Chaplain to the Mission to the Deaf in Swansea; the Rev Andrew K. Roberts, Curate of Brecon, to be Curate of Swansea St Thomas.

Appointment

Mr Peter Torry to be Ambassador to Spain in succession to Mr David Brighly who is retiring from the Diplomatic Service.

Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire, KENSINGTON PALACE. September 2: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, Parkinson's Disease Society, this morning opened the Society's new national office at 215 Vauxhall Bridge Road, Westminster, London.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Matthew Boulton, engineer, Birmingham, 1728; Joseph Wright, painter, Derby, 1734; John Francis, sculptor, Lincolnshire, 1780; James Sylvester, mathematician, London, 1814; James Hanington, first Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex, 1847; Louis Henri Sullivan, architect, Boston, Massachusetts, 1856; Jean Jaures, Socialist leader and politician, Castres, France, 1859; Urho Kekkonen, President of Finland, 1952-92; Pielavets, Finland, 1900.

DEATHS: Sir Edward Coke, jurist, Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire, 1634; Oliver Cromwell, English general and statesman, 1628-58; George Lillo, dramatist, London, 1739; Sir John Rennie, civil engineer, Bengal, Hertfordshire, 1874; Louis Adolph Thiers, 1st President of the Third Republic of France 1871-73, St Germain-en-Laye, 1871; Ivan Turgenev, writer, Bougiva, France, 1853; John Forrest, 1st Baron Forrest of Bunbury, explorer and politician, at sea en route for England, 1918; Henry Lawson, Australian poet, Sydney, 1922; Sir Arthur Sreevani, Australian politician, Melbourne, 1943; Eduardo Benes, President of Czechoslovakia 1935-48, Sezimovo Usti, 1948; e.e. cummings, poet and painter, North Conway, New Hampshire, 1962; Louis MacNeice, poet, London, 1963; Jo Chi Minli, President of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam 1954-69, Hanoi, 1969.

Premium Bonds

The following Premium Bond prize-winners were announced yesterday: £100,000: 42CB 363062, winner has a holding of £20,000 and comes from Lincolnshire 75CB 79831, £19,015, Norfolk; 24SP 527034, £15,000, Leicestershire; 77E7 20103, £2,717, Surrey; 17CL 844377, £2,000,000, Cumbria; 55RZ 55449, £3,680, Bristol; 16GF 229343, £2,000, Lancashire. £50,000: 59ZS 013806, £19,990, Staffordshire; 76NB 309865, £10,309, Kent; 36MP 525124, £5,600, East Sussex; 48AZ 051954, £13,500, West Sussex; 45MB 331620, £12,900, Barnet; 53DZ 897064, £20,000, Cheshire; 28VB 133741, £20,000, Bedfordshire; 20GS 923565, £19,991, West Midlands; 57VZ 792741, £220, West Midlands; 45WV 737532, £300, Tyne and Wear; 21MZ 099800, £15,000, Kent; 25HT 214339, £10,000, Merseyside; 24BP 183754, £2,853, Essex; 25ML 115239, £20,000, West Midlands. £25,000: 24XP 457898, £336.

School announcements

Arnold School, Blackpool. The Michaelmas term begins today and will end on December 18, 1998. Caroline MacPhee is Head Girl and James Holgate is Head Boy. Simon Maudsley is Captain of Rugby and Laura Bradbury Captain of Hockey. The term's events include: Launch of the School's Cadet Training Launch, 'Arnoldian' by Elizabeth, Lady Holdgate on September 19; Reception for new parents on September 30; CCF Field Day on October 9; Speech Day with the Right Hon David Mellor, PC, QC, as the Guest of Honour; GCSE Certificate Presentation Evening on October 22 with Right Hon Michael Jack, PC, MP, as Guest of Honour; Recital by Michael Watson on October 23; The Preston Dinner Dance on November 6; Opening of Centenary Complex & Procter Sports Hall on November 9; School Concert on November 11; Girls' Choir sing Evening at Blackburn Cathedral on November 14; Open Evening on November 16; School Play Romeo and Juliet on November 25, 26 & 28 in the School Drama Studio; Old Arnoldians' Annual Dinner on December 5 in the School Memorial Hall; Parents' Carol Service at Holy Trinity Church on December 14; Junior School Carol Service on December 15; Carol Service on December 16; Sixth Form Christmas Ball on December 18; During Half Term (October 26 - November 1) the Royal Navy's CCF will attend the Trafalgar Night Dinner at Kimberley Barracks; The Senior Hockey squad will tour Holland; Arnold School, Blackpool is a registered charity which exists for the education of children. Charity No 526679.

Headington School. The Autumn Term at Headington School, Oxford, begins on Thursday, September 3 with Kate Brezheer as Head Girl and Nadia Al-Sahout and Cheryl Lomas as her deputy. Peter Givling has been the guest speaker, Mrs Mary Francis, Deputy Private Secretary to the Queen. The school production of Three Strangers takes place in early December, and term ends on the Charity Sale on Saturday, December 12 and the Carol Service at 3.30pm on Sunday, December 13 at Christ Church Cathedral.

Birthdays today

Mr Geoff Arnold, cricketer, 54; Air Marshal Sir Erik Bennett, 70; Miss Sarah Bradford (Viscountess Bangor), biographer, 60; Dr Clare Burstall, educationist, 67; Professor Raymond Cowell, Vice-Chancellor, Nottingham Trent University, 61; Lord De Freyne, 71; Dr Francis Duffy, former president, Royal Institute of British Architects, 58; the Hon James Ellis, MEP, 49; Professor Peter Goddard, FRS, Master, St John's College, Cambridge, 53; the Rev A.H.H. Harbottle, former Chaplain to the Queen, 79; Mr Geoffrey Hoddinott, managing director and vice-president, Remington Consumer Products, 53; Mr Al Jardine, singer, 56; Mr Graham Kenfield, deputy director and chief cashier, Bank of England, 58; Professor Alison Lurie, writer, 72; Mr Richard MacCormac, former president, Royal Institute of British Architects, 70; Mr Miss Susan Millan, founder, Sir Michael Tippett Centre, 65; Mr John O'Riordan, Chief Constable, Strathclyde, 53; Mr T.D. Parr, chairman, William...

Memorial services

Sir Derek Barton, FRS. A service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Professor Sir Derek Barton, FRS, Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, will be held on Saturday, September 12, at 11.00am in the Chapel of St Mark's Church, High Wycombe.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr N.M. Barraclough and Miss P.M. Black. The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs Noel Barraclough of Wellington, Cheshire, and Philippa, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Paul Black of Manley, Cheshire.

Mr J.A.L. Cockin and Miss R.J. Jones. The marriage took place in the Chapel, Queens' College, Cambridge, of Mr James Alexander Cockin, son of Mr and Mrs Norma J. Cockin of Bromsgrove, to Miss Rebecca Julia Jones, daughter of Professor and Mrs George Jones, of Highgate, London. The bride was attended by Sarah Norton Jones and Olivia Cockin. Mr Richard Chatfield was best man. The reception was held at Downing College.

Latest wills

Sir Charles Frank, FRS, H.O. Wills Professor of Physics and Director of J.H. Wills Physics Laboratory, Bristol University, 1909-76, of Coombe Down, Bristol, left estate valued at £546,317 net. He left £5,000 each to 13 children. He left the residue to his wife, Mrs Gwendolyn...

BMDs: 0171 680 6880

PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

Pauline Collins, the actress, is 58 today. Baird, 68; Mrs Marion Rawlings, former president, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 74; Sir Mark Russell, former diplomat, 69; Mr Charles Sheen, actor, 33; Mr Archibald, footballer, 28; Mr Castor, Thelma, former Prime Minister of Luxembourg, 70; Miss Raquel Welch, actress, 53.

BIRTHS: ROBERTS-DUNN - On August 28th, a son, Alexander Richard, 8lbs 10oz. A baby brother for Alice Mary.

DEATHS: BOND - On 21st August in London. Born 1948. Wadsworth suddenly and peacefully, beloved widow of the late Alan Bond. A great loss to his beloved wife and her children. Died on 29th August 1998, aged 49 years. Funeral service at St Paul's Church, Tottenham, on Wednesday 10th September at 12.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations if wished, to 'Newbury' Club Restoration Appeal or Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust.

SERVICES: WESTBROOK - Hugh Wyatt died peacefully in hospital on August 28th at the age of 87. Respected Film Critic and Author - will be so sorely missed.

COURT & SOCIAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS: BEATTIE - With gratitude and pride we remember Peter Christopher, a dear son who gave so much happiness in his life and left a treasured memory.

FOR SALE

THE TIMES - 1991-1998 other days available. Best for price. Also available for sale. Contact: 0171 680 6880.

FOR SALE

PORTUGAL - 8 Country. All areas. Villages, beach, panoramic golf links, 15km. Contact: 0171 680 6880.

FOR SALE

GLASHAN-DONNER. Older property for sale in lovely location. £100,000 plus. Contact: 0171 300 0000.

NEWS

Russian crisis 'worse than 1917'

Russia's economic crisis took a dangerous political turn when Aleksandr Lebed, a presidential hopeful, told President Clinton that the country faced a greater threat than in 1917 on the eve of the Bolshevik revolution.

"Now we have huge stockpiles of poorly guarded nuclear weapons," said the former paratroop commander, who was among opposition leaders meeting Mr Clinton on the final day of his visit.

Princes urge end to grieving

Prince William and Prince Harry issued a rare personal appeal, a year after the death of their mother, asking that she now be left in peace and that there be an end to public commemoration and grieving.

Pivotal meeting due

The pace of the Northern Ireland peace process quickened with strong indications that David Trimble is poised to meet Gerry Adams face to face.

Rothermere dies

One of Britain's most influential newspaper groups faced uncertainty after the sudden death of Viscount Rothermere, the last of the press barons.

Coming out fighting

It was body language we were watching for and body is a language at which Hillary Rodham Clinton is adept - poised, spirited and defiant.

Pollution clampdown

Tougher fines for polluters were called for by the Government's environmental watchdog, which said courts were treating offenders too leniently.

Paedophile swoop

Wonderland, the worldwide Internet club for paedophiles that sparked dozens of arrests, was a "secretive and professional" website set up in America.

Plane weathers storm

The makers of the Eurofighter, having overcome German objections to their choice of name for the combat jet, have officially named it the Typhoon.

Feline peckish? The perfect recipe

Cat lovers be warned: stick to pasta when next in Vicenza. Pet owners in the Italian town are in uproar over a cookery book that includes an unusual local delicacy, *il gato in teia* - literally, cat in a pot.

Unhappy homecoming

The head of the Wales Tourist Board was on extended leave after being severely criticised for taking a three-week summer holiday in Spain.

Police in £10m payout

A police force paid more than £10 million in damages and costs to settle four claims of malicious prosecution, linked to an alleged plot to discredit the former police chief John Stalker.

Guardsmen freed

The father of a Belfast teenager killed by two Guardsmen said after their early release from jail that army camps would be picketed unless the men were dismissed from the Forces.

Adverts get go-ahead

Germany's far-right Republican party won a legal battle to screen controversial advertisements on television during the election campaign.

Genocide conviction

The United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda found a former mayor guilty of genocide, rape, breach of the Geneva Convention and crimes against humanity.

No hiding place

Pressure at home continued to increase for President Clinton as the Monica Lewinsky scandal followed the US leader to the Kremlin.



Tony Brown, a Concorde flight engineer, in the balloon capsule in which he hopes to circle the world with Bertrand Picard this winter

BUSINESS

Valuable diversion: The transformation of IBM from computer manufacturer to outsourcing giant gathered pace when it signed a £1.8 billion contract.

Short stop: The chief executive of Royal & Sun Alliance in Britain is to step down after just ten months in the job.

Where there's muck: Three local authorities are to share £120 million after the acquisition of their jointly owned waste management business by Yorkshire Water's waste arm.

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 66.7 to close at 5234.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 105.3 to 105.0 after a fall from \$1.6672 to \$1.6696 and from DM2.9343 to DM2.9235.

SPORT

Tennis: Tim Henman, the No 13 seed, won his first-round match at the US Open championships in New York, beating Australia's Scott Draper 6-3, 7-6, 7-6.

Football: It would have been nice if Glenn Hoddle had admitted, for once, that he had listened to his critics, in this case Tony Adams, owner of 55 England caps.

Rugby union: The RFU has withdrawn refereeing and insurance facilities from the game scheduled for this Saturday between Bedford and Cardiff.

Golf: Colin Montgomerie is experiencing the truth of the saying that golf is a funny old game. One minute he's a strutting rooster; the next he is somebody's feather duster.

ARTS

New movies: Nostalgia isn't what it used to be as David Leland's *The Land Girls* takes us back to 1941 and Whit Stillman's *The Last Days of Disco* fast-forwards to the early Eighties.

New buildings: The French architect Jean Nouvel has given Lucerne a stunning concert hall in a rich palette of burgundy red, midnight blue and bottle green.

New play: The Almeida Theatre premieres *The Play About the Baby*, the latest enigmatic offering from the American playwright Edward Albee.

Old crisis: There are two Royal Operas, says Rodney Milnes - the Royal Opera proper, and its management. And there is nothing wrong with the former.

FEATURES

Dr Thomas Stutzford: How a young woman survived her journey through the Arctic without the Prozac she usually needed; lessons from death of Viscount Rothermere; old people and sea cruises; resistance to aspirin.

Sense of loss: Drink, drugs and the loss of two longed-for children helped to destroy the marriage of Arthur Miller and Marilyn Monroe. The third extract in our serialisation of Barbara Leaming's book charts the breakdown.

Reviews: The pirate who became a national legend; the man who made James Bond; how visual artists imitate the natural world; the Russian poet, the KGB and Isaiah Berlin; the life of Alfred Kinsey; the sex researcher.

Course work: Your guide to a place in higher education. Today, art and social sciences.

At no time has the need for international co-operation, especially among the Group of Seven, been greater. The jitters around the world must be prevented from concentrating on Wall Street and their dragging down of stock prices all over the world must be stopped.



Michael Leapman on getting into journalism

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

MEDIA: Make your name in newspapers: Michael Leapman on getting into journalism

EDUCATION: What the literacy hour will mean for primary schoolchildren

BOOKS

Reviews: The pirate who became a national legend; the man who made James Bond; how visual artists imitate the natural world; the Russian poet, the KGB and Isaiah Berlin; the life of Alfred Kinsey; the sex researcher.

USAS

Course work: Your guide to a place in higher education. Today, art and social sciences.

THE PAPERS

At no time has the need for international co-operation, especially among the Group of Seven, been greater. The jitters around the world must be prevented from concentrating on Wall Street and their dragging down of stock prices all over the world must be stopped.

OUTLOOK

At no time has the need for international co-operation, especially among the Group of Seven, been greater. The jitters around the world must be prevented from concentrating on Wall Street and their dragging down of stock prices all over the world must be stopped.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,887

A crossword puzzle grid with numbers 1 through 28 indicating the starting positions for the clues.

- ACROSS
1 Resistance to mal de mer, say, among swimmers (3,4).
5 Sun-affected sailors slacken off (7).
9 Not a fellow to mix socially (9).
10 Teacher's pet endlessly seen (5).
11 Wild rose one found that's growing by the river (5).
12 Game to have a drink after the dance (9).
13 Proverbial labour saver (1,6,2,4).
17 Prince rather upset, having to accept a regal spouse (9,4).
21 Battle helmet (9).
24 Duplicate initially needs it to make copy (5).
25 Book a strong man (5).
26 Top-class doctor residing in modern flat (9).

A solution to puzzle No 20886, showing a grid of letters and words like 'SETAGOOD', 'GUITARIST', 'INGEST', 'GODWIT', 'BRITANNY', 'AIRSQUAT', 'REUP', 'UJIEGI', 'GRANDUNIONIAN'.

INFORMATION

A collection of service advertisements including road and weather conditions, weather by fax, motoring, car reports by fax, and newspaper recycling.

FORECAST

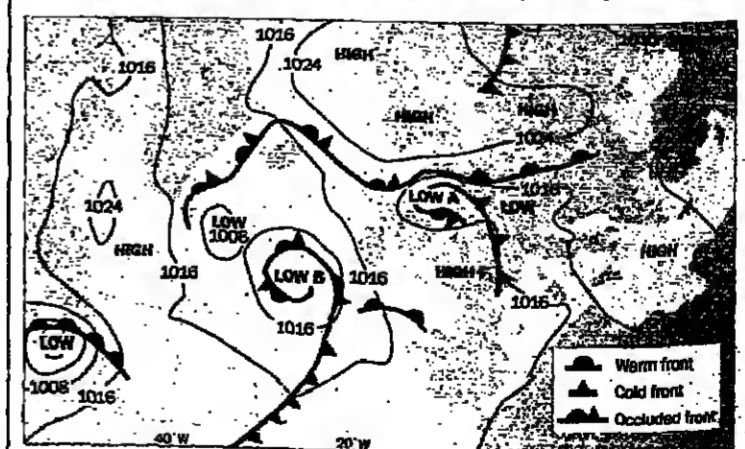
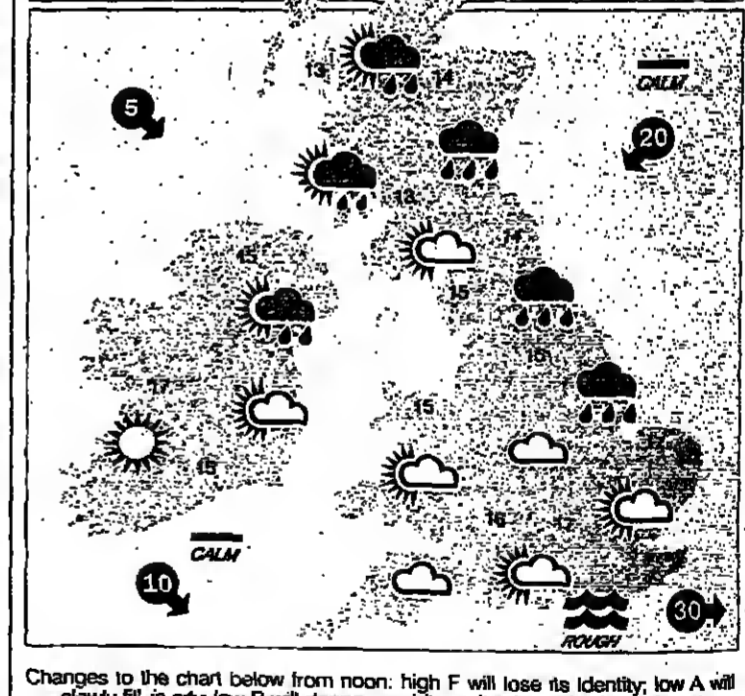
Weather forecast for various regions including NW England, Borders, Central S England, Channel Isles, and E & NE England.

A table titled 'AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY' showing weather data for various locations like Aberdeen, Glasgow, London, and Manchester.

ABROAD

A table showing weather forecasts for various international cities including Alicante, Cologne, Madrid, Rome, and Tokyo.

NOON TODAY



Tables for 'HIGH TIDES' and 'HOURS OF DARKNESS' providing specific data for various locations.

A large vertical advertisement for 'THE ICE BOX' and 'UK chief at Royal SunAll' with various promotional text and graphics.

TELEVISION AND RADIO Pages 46, 47

SPORT

Henman makes flying start at US Open PAGES 42-48



ARTS

Cinema dances to The Last Days of Disco PAGES 34-37



BUSINESS

Advertisers must refocus in the digital age PAGE 29



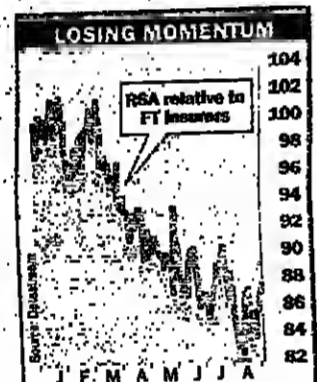
INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 3 1998

UK chief quits at Royal & SunAlliance

ROYAL & SunAlliance, the troubled insurance group, has parted company with the chief executive appointed to run its UK business just 10 months ago. The company, which has been dogged by management problems since its controversial merger in July 1996, said that Peter Foreman would relinquish his role at the end of this month. A spokesman said that Mr Foreman, 56, had indicated that he wanted to take early retirement. The company refused to say whether Mr Foreman, who retains an advisory role until the end of this year, would receive compensation. The departure of the UK chief executive comes as the insurer takes action to restore shareholder confidence after an alarming fall in its share price since March. At a time when many other insurance companies have enjoyed improved stock market ratings, shares in Royal & SunAlliance have fallen from 80p to a low of 50.2p. The fall has wiped more than £5 billion from the group's stock market value, undermining one of the main reasons for the merger, which was intended to enhance shareholder value. The role of UK chief executive is to be taken over by Paul Spencer, who is currently group finance director. Mr Foreman had to oversee a period of immense change in the insurer's top management after the appointment of Bob Mendelsohn as group chief executive in December last year. One analyst said that instigating the changes had put a considerable strain on Mr Foreman. Another claimed that the under-performance of the share price was linked to Royal & SunAlliance's general insurance operation, which has come under increasing competitive pressure. The departure of Roger Taylor, the deputy chairman, at the end of last year was deemed to be the last of the major changes associated with the merger of Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance. Mr Taylor was paid £794,000 to leave the company. Richard Gamble, who was head of Royal Insurance, also left, receiving compensation of £775,000. However, at the end of June, a further four people from the management board left the company. The company spokesman indicated that there could be more changes to come under the new board structure. The group's interim profits, announced last month, were hit by the El Niño weather pattern and Canadian ice storms. Operating profits of the insurer fell by almost 40 per cent, before tax and exceptional items, to £305 million. The company complained of "very competitive market conditions". In the six months to June 30, group pre-tax profits fell by more than a fifth to £437 million. Analysts believe that the insurer has about £2.5 billion of excess capital to spend on a purchase. The company is also to make further cost savings. Royal & SunAlliance also announced the appointment of Carol St Mark, as a non-executive director. Ms St Mark is president of Growth Management, a business development and consulting firm. Julian Hance will become group finance director on October 1. He has been a director of financial development since April 1998.



Dick Brown, chairman of Cable & Wireless Communications, top, with Graham Wallace

Markets shrug off Moscow vote on Dubinin

WORLD stock markets held their nerve yesterday despite unsettling news from Russia and Malaysia, but the mood of investors remained tense. In London, the FTSE 100 closed 66.7 points higher, at 5,235.8, but this was still well below its peak of the day, when it showed a 172-point gain. Wall Street put on an early show of resilience, with the Dow Jones industrial average registering a gain at mid-session of about 80 points. But the Dow eventually turned, dropping 45.06 points to 7,782.37. News from emerging markets again hurt confidence. In Malaysia, Mahathir Mohamad, Prime Minister, sacked Anwar Ibrahim, his free-market Finance Minister, on the day after the Government imposed currency controls. In Russia, the Duma backed a demand for Sergei Dubinin, head of the Russian central bank, to be dismissed by President Yeltsin. The improved mood in leading share markets owed more to investors pausing to weigh up the situation after Monday's calamitous losses and Tuesday's strong bounce on Wall Street than to any fundamental reappraisal of market prospects in view of the crisis in emerging markets. The market focus has shifted somewhat to the question of how the Group of Seven industrialised nations will deal with the crisis in world markets, including thoughts of a co-ordinated cut in interest rates. Kiichi Miyazawa, Japan's Finance Minister, will meet Robert Rubin, the US Treasury Secretary, and Alan Greenspan, the Chairman of the US Federal Reserve, in San Francisco this weekend. Mr Miyazawa yesterday said that he expected the question of a US rate cut to be discussed, but that he had no plan to propose joint rate cuts between Japan and the US to stabilise world equity markets. At the end of his two-day summit with President Yeltsin in Moscow, President Clinton emphasised the importance of this weekend's talks. He said: "Unless Japan begins to grow again, it's going to be difficult for Russia and other countries to do what they need to do." Earlier, some Asian markets profited from Wall Street's rebound on Tuesday despite concern about Malaysia. Hong Kong shares rose 4 per cent, but Tokyo's Nikkei 225 ended only 0.05 per cent up after volatile trading.

BUSINESS TODAY

Table with financial data including Stock Market Indices, US Rate, London Money, Sterling, and Dollar.

Standard Life nets £1bn from big-bank exodus

STANDARD LIFE BANK has taken more than £1 billion in deposits from 120,000 customers since its launch in January. The banking arm of the mutual life insurer has overtaken Safeway, the supermarket chain that launched its own bank at the same time but has attracted only £600 million, and Tesco, which has taken £800 million after 11 months. However, Standard Life has yet to catch up with Sainsbury, the most popular of the new-style banks, with £1.4 billion on deposit after 18 months. Standard Life has raised its rates four times and now pays up to 7.55 per cent on deposits of more than £60,000 in its direct access account and 7.81 per cent for sums above £250,000 in its 50-day account. The bank expects to start providing mortgages by telephone later this year. The new-style banks are cashing in on growing public disenchantment with traditional high street banks and building societies. Which?, the Consumers' Association magazine, yesterday called for the Banking Code to be strengthened to end the "shabby" treatment of customers. It said that Alliance & Leicester, Northern Rock and Woolwich are the worst offenders. Some banks and building societies try to attract new customers by launching chart-topping accounts while paying existing savers uncompetitive rates, it said. The Virgin One account, which combines a flexible mortgage and current account, has attracted 5,000 customers and lent £400 million since its launch last October. Nearly 60 per cent of them have come from the big banks, with almost 20 per cent defecting from Barclays and more than 30 per cent from Halifax and Abbey National. Just under 10 per cent came from First Direct, the rival telephone bank.

IBM clinches £1.8bn outsourcing at CWC

IBM's transformation from computer manufacturer to outsourcing giant gathered pace yesterday when it signed a £1.8 billion ten-year contract to take over the management of the computer systems of Cable & Wireless Communications (CWC), the UK cable company. The deal is the biggest of its kind outside America, according to IBM, which predicts that large-scale telecoms outsourcing is an important new industry trend. With IBM's help, CWC will in future be able to present customers with a single bill for telephone, data and cable television services. More than 1,000 CWC staff will transfer to IBM, which says the deal will create an additional 400 jobs. Graham Wallace, the CWC chief executive, said: "This partnership will enable us to deliver the IT systems necessary to provide high levels of business efficiency and customer service." An IBM spokesman said: "In three years, 90 per cent of European companies will be outsourcing their computer network support services. This trend towards telecoms outsourcing is really taking hold." IBM has struck similar deals with Lloyds TSB and Hapag Lloyd, the German tour operator. The value of its outsourcing deals totals \$14 billion (about £8 billion). The spokesman said: "Well-known companies like CWC pave the way and others will follow. We are very bullish about this." IBM's services division increased sales by 23 per cent to make up a quarter of group revenue last year. The software division lost 43 per cent. CWC, which is majority owned by Cable & Wireless, was formed via the merger of Bell Cablemedia, Mercury Communications, Nynex CableComms and Videotron.

Bankers ask OFT to investigate accountants

THE Office of Fair Trading has been asked to investigate the big accounting firms over allegations of uncompetitive pricing on mergers and acquisitions. The City's investment bankers have written to John Bridgeman, Director-General of Fair Trading, asking for an investigation. The London Investment Bankers Association (Liba) complains that accountants are refusing to sign off the documents and comfort letters normally required in the due diligence work that forms part of big City deals. City regulators, including the Stock Exchange, often require accountants to put their names to accounts to be published in documents such as listing particulars. Kit Farrow, director-general of Liba, said: "It is becoming increasingly difficult to get appropriate opinions because we find the accountants are unwilling to put their names to an appropriate form of words." One investment banker said accountants were running away from liability: "The biggest problem we have is the indemnities and protection that they ask for before they will sign." Mr Farrow added: "Because of professional indemnity claims in the past, they are unwilling to expose themselves." Liba's complaint closely follows the merger between Price Waterhouse and Coopers & Lybrand.

Share structure ensures continuing Mail dynasty

THE question of who will succeed Lord Rothermere at the helm of Daily Mail and General Trust highlights the issue of his dynasty's control, achieved despite owning only a minority of the company. The family owns nearly 80 per cent of the voting shares in DMGT and it seems likely that the chairmanship of the media group will pass to Lord Rothermere's son, Jonathan Harmsworth. Such a handing of power down the generations is possible because 95 per cent of the company's share capital is in "A" shares that do not confer voting rights on their holders. DMGT is one of the few remaining quoted companies to retain the archaic two-tier capital structure, once common practice among family-run businesses. In the past, handing out non-voting or limited voting right shares was a useful way for companies to raise finance from investors while maintaining control over their destiny. However, institutional investors became increasingly irritated by the boardroom bar and resented the lack of a bid premium, which kept their shares at a discount to the market, although often it had the effect of boosting the yield on an investment. A concerted campaign in the 1980s and 1990s by the Association of British Insurers and the National Association of Pension Funds has more or less stamped out the old-fashioned practice. Companies that wished to increase support from the City and expand their businesses were told in no uncertain terms that they had to abandon the two-tier structure and enfranchise non-voting shareholders. The watershed for shareholder democrats came in 1993, when the ruling dynasties behind Whitbread and Great Universal Stores decided to abolish their privileged shareholder status and switched to a unitary capital structure. Both have expanded rapidly since. This year has seen a further decline as Eldridge Pope, the pub operator, abandoned non-voting shares. The Savoy Group, which was saved from takeover by Forte through its dual share structure, was taken over earlier this year. The only blue chip company, other than DMGT, that today pursues a divide-and-rule policy among its investors is Schroders, the independent merchant bank. However, both it and DMGT should be able to fend off reformers provided they can maintain the impressive performance of their shares.

Advertisement for Cisco Powered Network. Text: 'There are lots of ways for your business to enter the Internet. This is the door the builders put in.' Includes Cisco logo and contact information.

SkyePharma will reap rewards from Paxil

BY PAUL DURMAN
IAN GOWRIE-SMITH, the chairman of SkyePharma, expects his drug delivery company to start earning substantial royalty income next year from a new version of Paxil. Smith-Kline Beecham's big-selling anti-depressant...

US banks face pressure over details of Russian exposure

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK
AMERICA'S Securities & Exchange Commission is considering tougher disclosure rules for banks with large emerging market exposure...

the crisis. Citicorp, which will form the world's largest financial services group in a merger with Travelers Group, said losses in Russia would cut its profit by \$200 million. The three banks were the latest in a long line of Wall Street financial houses and European banks to declare their losses...

"Disclosure has been pretty inconsistent and that's part of the problem." While Citicorp and Morgan Stanley specified the size of their losses, DLI only stated the total profit from operations. Other banks that have disclosed large losses include Barclays, Credit Suisse First Boston and BankAmerica...



Ian Mills, chief executive of Graham Group, was cautious but pleased with the results of the company's long-term strategy

Graham builds on strategy

GRAHAM GROUP, the builders' merchant, raised pre-tax profits from £8.3 million to £10.5 million in the six months to June 30 on sales up from £244.7 million to £261.4 million (George Sivel writes). Earnings rose from 3.9p to 5.1p and the half-year dividend rose from 2.0p to 2.1p.

Jefferson Smurfit feels Asian effect

JEFFERSON SMURFIT, the Irish packaging group, yesterday said that its earnings growth will be less than expected this year because of a sharp fall in Asian demand for US exports of linerboard. Michael Smurfit, chairman, said that this would lead to a decline in total demand for the industry...

Britt Allcroft on the up

BRITT ALLCROFT, the children's TV characters company whose successes include Thomas the Tank Engine, reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £3.04 million from £2.35 million in the year to June 30. Earnings rose to 8.48p a share from 6.66p. A final dividend of 1.4p lifts the total to 2.1p a share from 1.6p.

Hickson profit up 30%

SHARES in Hickson International, the chemicals company, jumped by nearly a quarter yesterday as it reported a 30 per cent increase in pre-tax profits and paid its first interim dividend for three years. Shares closed 9 1/2p higher at 48p as the company, which came close to collapse in 1995, reported pre-tax profits of £5.6 million in the six months to 30 June.

Ilion to sell loss-maker

ILION, the information technology group, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits from £4 million to £1.2 million in the six months to June 30, on sales up from £88.4 million to £125.6 million. Earnings per share fell from 11p to 3.5p a share and the half-year dividend dropped from 2p to 1p. Ilion said that the sale of the company's loss-making subsidiaries was under negotiation...

Partco accelerates

STRONG organic growth combined with the successful integration of recent acquisitions helped to push up interim pre-tax profits at Partco, the car parts group, by 29 per cent to £2.3 million (£9.5 million). Gordon Vardley, chairman, said he felt confident the group could underpin continued growth during the next 18 months...

Littlechild warns power link pair

SCOTTISH HYDRO and Southern Electric will have to prove that their £4.9 billion merger will not delay electricity competition, the industry watchdog said yesterday. The planned merger, announced on Tuesday, is to face extra scrutiny from Stephen Littlechild because both companies are lagging in the race to introduce competition into the household market...

Huntingdon secures £20m rescue deal

HUNTINGDON Life Sciences, which tests drugs and other products on animals, yesterday secured its £20.2 million financial rescue in the face of strong opposition from animal rights groups (Paul Durman writes). Andrew Baker, who led the consortium of American investors that will own a 43 per cent stake in HLS, has taken over as chairman...

Contributions Agency attacked

THE Contributions Agency, which handled more than £47 billion of National Insurance contributions last year, has been severely criticised in an independent report for failing to improve the standard of its work. The report by the Adjudicator's Office accused the agency of carelessness and failing to deal with complaints effectively...

TOURIST RATES

Table with 2 columns: Bank, Rate. Lists exchange rates for various countries including Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and USA.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

TENDER FOR CATERING SERVICES AT SOUTH NORFOLK COUNCIL. You are invited to express your interest in tendering for a 3 year contract [revised annually] for the Catering Services at the Council Offices, Long Stratton. Services included in the scope of the contract which commences 4 January 1999 are: STAFF CATERING AND VENDING.

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF G & J PRODUCTIONS LIMITED AND THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a meeting of the creditors of G & J Productions Limited will be held at the offices of the Insolvency Practitioner, Messrs. J. & J. Producers, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0JF, on Wednesday, the 10th day of September 1998 at 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon.

AN EXCLUSIVE OFFER THE TIMES SAVE £3 ON PENGUIN DICTIONARIES. PLUS FREE CLASSIC WITH EVERY ORDER. To coincide with the start of a new school year, The Times has teamed up with Penguin Books to offer readers the chance to save £3 on dictionaries and a guide from the Penguin Reference series. Plus, choose one FREE Penguin Classic, worth £2.50, with your order.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES. TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE 0171-782 7344 OR FAX: 0171-782 7827. Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

CHARTY COMMISSION. The Charity Commission has issued a notice under section 17 of the Charities Act 1993 requiring the trustees of the Charity Commission to submit a statement of accounts for the year ending 31st March 1998.

سكزا من الاصل

DAY SEPTEMBER...
ROUNDOUP
on Smurfit
Asian effect
icroft on the
profit up
sell losses
accelerate
NGUI
RIES
IVERY ORDER

Reading between the lines

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor



Insisting that their tongues are not even in their cheeks, the City's bankers have penned a letter of protest to the Office of Fair Trading over the behaviour of leading accounting firms. Since the OFT has subjected the banks to the indignity of a monopolies commission investigation into underwriting fees, one can understand that the victims of this unwarranted inquiry might be viewing other City practitioners with a new degree of scepticism. The surprising thing is that they have waited so long before pointing out the shortcomings of the accountancy profession.

Their gripe is not over the level of fees that would have taken a degree of brass neck that not even the brashness of the Square Mile's bankers could have managed without flinching. The object of their criticism is the wish of the accountants to insulate themselves from any responsibility. Always a tendency among the profession, this has now reached a level where it is threatening to make mergers and acquisitions, the great fee-drivers of the City, close to impossible to affect.

people but not to everyone. When he bought the radio company, Fidelity, he took some comfort from the auditors' report in the company's accounts. The accountants, however, were not going to be caught that way, oh no. A protracted legal battle produced the ruling that the auditors' report could only be relied upon by shareholders in the company that paid the bill. This was not something that was spelt out in the small print at the back of the report and accounts. Nothing in the notes explained that, unless you were a shareholder in the company, you might as well ignore the statement that assures that these figures give a true and fair view.

own a minority of the shares in the holding company, the Daily Mail & General Trust, but retain a fierce grip over the way the business is run through its control of a majority of the votes. Most companies which employed such "us and them" dual share structures have now been forced to adopt more obviously democratic ways but investors have been content to allow DMGT to remain a family fiefdom for the simple reason that it has brought them rich rewards. Lord Rothermere had a remarkable reign and his investors reaped the benefits. For fund managers, voting power only assumes importance when companies fail to perform; otherwise, they are content to remain interested, but impotent, beneficiaries of good management.

After a long-running battle, even the Savoy Group was eventually forced into giving up its cherished two-tier structure, although only to succumb to takeover. Now DMGT and Schroders are the only major companies to have two classes of investor, although a raft of smaller businesses remain family controlled courtesy of a dual share structure. The Association of British Insurers and National Association of Pension Funds are relatively muted in their opposition to the schemes because, *aveat emptor*, they knew what they were buying. Ironically, the CBI has even suggested that there could be a modern incarnation of the dual share structure, as a method for

encouraging family businesses to tap into outside sources of capital without relinquishing control. On the basis of what has gone before at DMGT, this might not be such a bad idea. It may now fall on Jonathan Harmsworth to demonstrate that it may be a very sound suggestion.

be a question for management. Instead, it seems that Mr Forbes may have been blackmailed, however subtly, into a rapid appreciation of what Scotland has to offer. Had the Scottish Office seen a leading head office heading south, it could have objected to the deal. The DTI's attitude to power sector mergers is riddled with confusion, and rumbles of discontent from the Scottish Office might have prompted queries over how the public interest was to be served by it, and subjected it to the nuisance of a monopolies commission inquiry.

Keeping power in the right hands

Nationalist fervour is apparently trying to dictate the shape of corporate activity north of the border. Jim Forbes, chief executive of Southern Electric, may be happy to quit the Home Counties for Perthshire. Nonetheless there are worrying implications behind the suggestion that the Scottish Office had indicated it might be open to Southern's £4.8 billion merger with Scottish Hydro-Electric unless the resulting entity was headquartered in Scotland. Cheaper labour and property prices almost certainly mean that there are savings to be had from moving jobs from Maidenhead to Perth but whether the merged company chooses to take advantage of them should surely

Fit for opportunities

AS the underwriters were left with a hefty chunk of the JJB rights issue—so providing a useful demonstration to Denise Kingsmill and the MMC that the underwriting system does work—Philip Green was holidaying in France. Assured that his share of the proceeds for selling Sports Division to JJB would still be flowing into his bank account. After his perfectly timed exit from sports retailing, the energetic Green will be fit, ready and well-funded to exploit the next opportunity.

Matalan and Monsoon hit the highs and lows

By PAUL DURMAN

MONSOON and Matalan, two clothing retailers that have endured a difficult introduction to life as quoted companies, yesterday produced contrasting bulletins on the latest shopping trends. Monsoon's shops, which sell women's wear, bags and hats based on ethnic designs reported a 6 per cent decline in sales over the past 13 weeks, while Matalan's out-of-town stores showed a 6 per cent increase in their latest like-for-like figures. Andrew May, Monsoon's finance director, blamed the poor trading on "the most dire weather conditions... in the first half of that quarter" — a period in which Monsoon usually enjoys bumper sales.



Angus Mouro, who saw Matalan rise above its flotation price

Since Matalan's latest like-for-like figures only cover the past eight weeks, the worst of the weather fell in its first half. In the 27 weeks to July 4, its like-for-like sales were only 2.7 per cent higher, compared with a 14.2 per cent rise in the same period in 1997. In a strong stock market, both share prices rallied. Monsoon climbed 9½p to 112p, and Matalan rose 25½p to 246p, above its May flotation price of 235p. Monsoon remains far below the 198p at which its shares were priced in February. However, although Mr

highlighted its dependence on its store opening programme. Its high margins offer little scope for improvement. Peter Simon, the chairman who cashed in £80 million of

shares in the flotation, bought back 200,000 shares. He still controls more than 70 per cent of the company.

In the year to May 31, Monsoon made pre-tax profits of £28.6 million, a 13 per cent increase after adjusting for ownership changes made in the run-up to flotation. Total sales grew by 14 per cent to £123.4 million. It is paying a final dividend of 3p a share. Matalan, whose chief executive is Angus Mouro, sells discount clothing and came in ahead of forecasts with interim pre-tax profits of £4.7 million, more than double the previous year's £1.8 million. This was after paying out £1.3 million in pre-flotation management incentives. Matalan's sales were 18 per cent higher at £19.1 million. It is not paying an interim dividend.

Monsoon plans this year to add another 40 stores to its existing 218, which include 108 Monsoon shops and 31 branches of Accessorize, the hats and bags chain. It is also experimenting with cosmetics and petite sizes for Monsoon. Matalan said it had traded strongly in menswear and childrenswear. It has opened new stores in Birmingham, Wigan, Aberdeen, Clydebank and Glasgow, and has plans for a further seven in the second half.

Tempus, page 28

Helping hand for JJB issue

UNDERWRITERS of the £105 million rights issue organised by Warburg Dillon Read to finance JJB's £290 million acquisition of Sports Division have been pressed into action because of the general market slide and concern about the enlarged group's prospects (See Commentary, this page). Warburg said yesterday that just 63.4 per cent of the stock had been taken up and the rest had been taken up by the sub-underwriters. It is understood Warburg was left with less than 3 per cent of the stock by the close.

Yesterday JJB shares closed at 393½p, down ½p. Terms of the rights issue were seven shares at 440p for each 25 held. The closing price on the day before the rights issue was announced was 533½p. On impact day they closed at 516½p.

Wilson Bowden shares leap on strong interims

By GEORGE SIVELL

SHARES in Wilson Bowden, the housebuilder, rose from 493½p to 512½p yesterday after the group reported a strong set of interim figures. Pre-tax profits rose 23 per cent to £35.8 million on sales up 6.3 per cent to £245.1 million.

Earnings rose 28.3 per cent to 27.2p out of which the half-year dividend rose 21.2 per cent to 4p.

City reaction to the results was mixed. One analyst raised full-year forecasts from £76 million to £79 million. Others, however, raised doubts over the margin outlook for the company. David Wilson, the chairman and chief executive of Wilson Bowden, yesterday said: "The group has successfully continued its policy of seeking

to deliver sustainable growth coupled with optimisation of margins whenever market conditions allow."

He added that the activity under way in the property division meant that the profit for the full year should at least match last year's excellent result despite the absence of any one large dominant project this year.

"I have emphasised that land remains a major issue within the housebuilding industry and in the current circumstances our long land bank policy gives us great comfort," Mr Wilson said.

"Provided therefore that the market runs to form in the autumn as one would normally expect, then the full year will produce further good results."

IT sector boosted by CMG

CMG, the computer consultant and software designer, gave the information technology sector a comforting shove in the arm yesterday with an upbeat review of prospects (Robert Cole writes).

Cor Stutterheim, the chief executive, said: "The industry is continuing to benefit from an extended period of exceptionally strong demand."

Of CMG, he said: "Our main markets remain buoyant," and he reported that the company increased pre-tax profits by 59 per cent in the six months to June 30. It made £24 million, up from £15.1 million. Most IT sector shares rose, reversing the downward trend. CMG closed 187½p higher at £18.62½.

Tempus, page 28



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Future rosy says Flying Flowers

By MATTHEW BARBOUR

FLYING FLOWERS, the Jersey mail order company, has sought to reassure shareholders that the company still has a sound future despite issuing two profit warnings in as many months.

Since the first profit warning on July 15 shares of the company have lost over two thirds of their value, dropping from 590p to 148p last week. The shares closed at 165p yesterday.

The company has blamed trading problems at Garden Direct, which sells bedding plants via mail order, for the disappointing results. Pre-tax profits for the six months to July 3 were down 18 per cent at £2.8 million (£3.4 million) on turnover down 11 per cent at £23.7 million (£26.7 million).

Walter Goldsmith, chairman, said that the shortfall in profitability of Garden Direct had overshadowed an otherwise satisfactory six months in the rest of the business.

"The fundamentals of our core business are still in place, namely the building of customer databases in key niche markets. It is these databases that are the engines for future growth," he said.

He added that Gardening Direct was still a young brand but dominated its sector. "We believe we can recruit significant numbers of customers for the foreseeable future," he said.

He said Flying Flowers was continuing to build its database, although it was affected to some degree by the retail market conditions in the latter part of the year.

The interim dividend has been frozen at 2.45p. Earnings per share are down to 8.95p from 11.33p.

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Best levels lost

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Table listing various alcoholic beverage stocks with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

BANKS

Table listing various bank stocks with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

Table listing various brewery, pub, and restaurant stocks with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Table listing various diversified industrial stocks with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

ELECTRICITY

Table listing various electricity utility stocks with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Table listing various electronic and electrical stocks with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

CHEMICALS

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CONSTRUCTION

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DISTRIBUTORS

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ENGINEERING VEHICLES

Table listing various engineering and vehicle stocks with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

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HEALTHCARE

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HOUSEHOLD GDS & TEXT

Table listing various household goods and textile stocks with columns for High, Low, Company, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

INSURANCE

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LEISURE & HOTELS

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MEDIA

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Mining

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Oil & Gas

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INVESTMENT TRUSTS

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PROPERTY

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RETAILERS, FOOD

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RETAILERS, GENERAL

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Support Services

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Telecommunications

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Transport

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Water

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Alternative Inv Market

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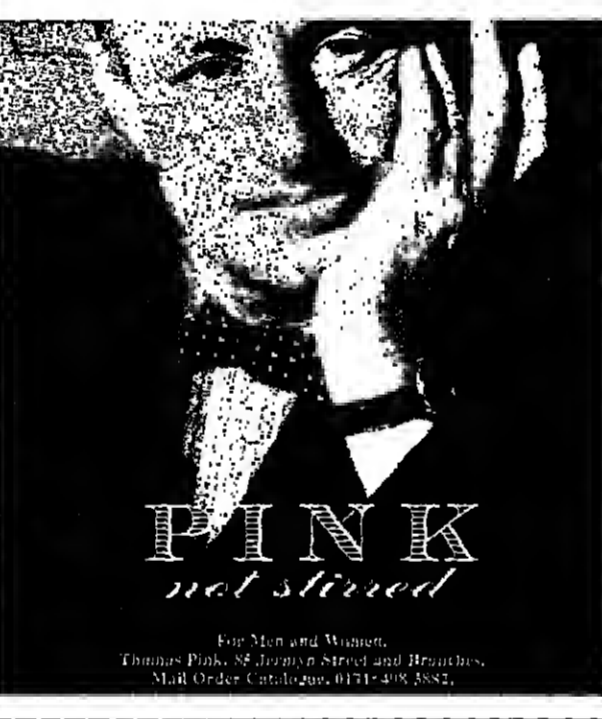
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SHORTS (under 5 years)

Table listing various short-term investments with columns for High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

LONGS (over 15 years)

Table listing various long-term investments with columns for High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

UNLISTED

Table listing various unlisted investments with columns for High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Table listing various medium-term investments with columns for High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation at:

Table listing various index-linked investments with columns for High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, and P/E ratio.

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FILM Life in the fast lane: The Last Days of Disco THIS PAGE

THE TIMES ARTS

OPERA Hostilities resume at Covent Garden PAGE 37



All quiet on Wessex front

NEW MOVIES: Fine performances from several talented young actresses cannot lift *The Land Girls* out of the 'worthy' category of British film, says Geoff Brown

So much popular cinema expends much energy trying to be up to date that the antiquarian bent of *The Land Girls* takes you by surprise. The clock turns back to England in 1941. But there are no aerial bombardments; the scene is a Dorset farm, where the daily round consists of milking cows, ploughing, catching rats and acting rustic.

- The Land Girls**
Warner West End. 12. 111 mins
Girls muck out in Second World War
- The Last Days of Disco**
Warner West End. 15. 112 mins
Motormouths of a disco club
- He Got Game**
Virgin Trocadero. 18. 134 mins
Spike Lee plays basketball
- Species II**
Plaza. 18. 93 mins
Unwelcome and gloopy horror sequel
- Hands**
Renoir. PG. 129 mins
Testing Russian film about society's outcasts

Lloyd's saucy teenager in *Wish You Were Here*. The young actresses buckle down to the cows, mud and clichés with fetching gusto. Other cast members — Steven Mackintosh as Joe, Tom Georgeson as the farmer with a soft heart lurking beneath a thick crust — do not disappoint.

ing characters do? They talk. They debate the characteristics of the yuppie class. They analyse themselves, each other and their relationships; and continue yapping in the loo, on the sidewalk, or hanging on a strap on the subway.

But at least the fish in Stillman's aquarium are fascinating to watch. Kate Beckinsale is marvellous as Charlotte, a bitchy man-hunter, newly graduated from college, just installed in the city as a publishers' assistant. "We're in complete control," she tells her chum Alice as they survey the disco crowd. "There are a lot of choices down there."

Unfortunately, engaging performances and great period sounds are not enough to fill out the hollow at the film's centre. This time round, Stillman's characters seem adrift from their time and place, prisoners of the director's style. It will be interesting to see how they fare in Stillman's next project, an adventure movie set in the 18th century.



Balancing act: Anna Friel, Catherine McCormack and Rachel Weisz swap style for stile in David Leland's *The Land Girls*

about to graduate from high school. The speechifying of *Get on the Bus* is gone. Instead, Lee uses family drama and satire to blow the trumpet for positive thinking and forgiveness. Say yes to basketball, this film says; say no to drugs and ghetto violence.

Denzel Washington plays the erring father given a week's leave from prison to persuade his son to sign up with the state Governor's alma mater. This is not the strongest of plot points, though it does allow Lee to probe family conflicts and make pointed fun of the hype and greed that comes wrapped up with the American sport.

Not that comedy dominates: you only have to listen to the soundtrack to realise how serious, even pretentious, Lee is. Lesser-known music by Aaron Copland, folksy and proudly American, is pressed into service to accompany shots of basketballs propelled into hoops or tender talks with a bruised prostitute (Milla Jovovich). Editing and camerawork follow Lee's usual fondness for bumpy trickery.

The artifice stops, though, with Ray Allen, a real basketball superstar who gives an unaffected performance as the son, Jesus Shuttlesworth by name, unsure which way to turn in life. *He Got Game*

Ben Gazzara Felicity Huffman Ricky Jay Steve Martin Rebecca Pidgeon Campbell Scott

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PREMIERE - *Quentin Matheson*

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DAILY TELEGRAPH - *David Greiner*

"David Mamet, writer and director of this splendidly tricky film noir, takes Hitchcock as his model and goes one (or two) better."
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Every week young film fans discuss the latest releases...

SNAP VERDICT

LAND GIRLS
Leslie Isaiah Thomas, 20: A pleasant enough Second World War drama. Perhaps more suited to the 40-plus age range but I admit I did shed a tear or two.
Carl Clark, 19: I wanted more to happen — it moved at such a slow pace. Not really a bloke's movie.
Charlotte Dailey, 19: A gentle film that tells us of the lives of three women in the Second World War. Strong performances all round.
Alison Juliard, 20: Not particularly deep but certainly enjoyable. I shall be taking my Gran at the weekend.

LAST DAYS OF DISCO
Leslie: Damn funny. Director Whit Stillman has made a top-quality film that pulses with intelligence. You need to be awake for this one.
Carl: You don't see too many of these. A carefully and beautifully made comedy.
Charlotte: Really well-written and as satisfying as a really good episode of *Friends*.
Alison: British actress Kate Beckinsale's American accent was flawless. She was as American as apple pie.

SPECIES II
Leslie: By no means a classic but it achieved its aim. It scared me stupid.
Carl: Even worse than the first *Species*. I couldn't wait to leave the cinema.
Charlotte: Horrible. I hid behind my hands.
Alison: Really disturbing. I shan't watch this movie again.

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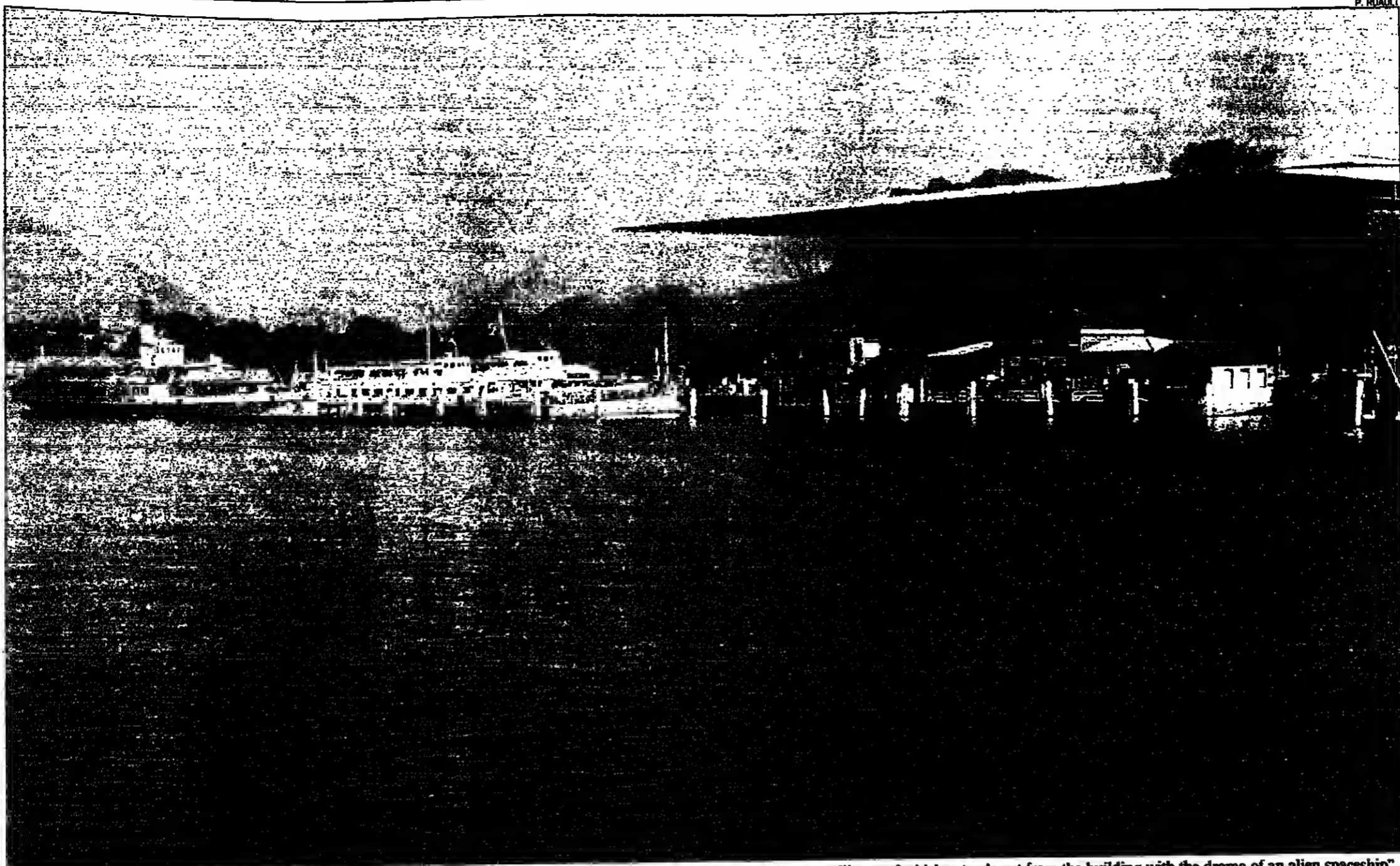
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ARCHITECTURE: The French architect Jean Nouvel has built one of the world's great music venues. **Marcus Binney reports**



Jean Nouvel's £85 million concert hall, nesting on the shores of Lake Lucerne. "The great feature of his design is the oversailing roof which extends out from the building with the drama of an alien spaceship"

The concert hall from outer space

Lucerne's new concert hall is a building to be compared with the acclaimed Guggenheim in Bilbao. On the edge of the lake, Jean Nouvel, the star of French architecture, has produced a mesmerising building of commanding presence that changes its whole character as dusk comes. In contrast to the cool whites and greys fashionable the world over, Nouvel uses deep, lustrous colour both outside and in: burgundy reds, midnight blues and bottle greens.

The great feature of his design is the oversailing roof, which extends out from the building with the drama of the alien spaceship arriving over America in the film *Independence Day*. On the two sides overlooking the lake it projects 30 metres; at the dagger-like corner the distance is a full 45 metres. To achieve the projection, Nouvel uses the techniques of bridge construction, but he adds: "Forget technology, I am not trying to reveal or express structure."

True, the building does not rival the sculptural curves of Frank Gehry's Guggenheim or the Sydney Opera House, but it has a powerful Cubist

quality of interlocking geometric shapes, with smooth surfaces dramatically contrasted with the cages of the escape stairs and whole walls of metal grillage. This is the architecture of the three-dimensional collage.

Nouvel demonstrates a mastery in bedding down an adventurous building into a beautiful setting, avoiding any jarring note on the lakeshore and doing honour to the many older buildings along it by providing ravishing views of them at every level. He and his impressive project architect, Brigitte Métra, describe this as a process of inclusion.

"The £85 million project is the more amazing for being largely a voluntary enterprise grow-

ing out of Lucerne's well-established summer music festival. Nouvel won the competition to design a new concert hall (with conference hall and a new museum attached) in 1988 with a spectacular proposal to build out into the lake. To his grief, and the outrage of many local citizens, the commission was awarded instead to a Swiss architect who had been placed third. But the project faltered and when it was revived the promoters went back to Nouvel.

By this time, it was evident that building in the lake was not acceptable, so Nouvel decided that "if I cannot go to the water, the water will come to me". Each time you pass from one part of his building to an-

other you cross a canal, while in front a large basin of water provides magical reflections at night.

Though monumental in scale, the concert hall is invitingly informal, with a long bar spilling out over the pavement. It sits happily with the flotilla of boats, old-fashioned and modern, moored in front, and makes a delightful counterpoint to the rustic wooden rowing club jutting out into the lake in front, which, sadly, the city wants to remove.

Inside, broad staircases, enclosed with a veil of shimmering silver, invite you to explore. Nouvel developed the lustrous colours with the artist Alain Bonny. "Jean pointed to the glass of Bordeaux he was drinking and said 'give me this,'" says Métra.

Nouvel pays tribute to the Swiss artisans and workmen who produced "a level of quality superior to that we generally know in France". The views over the lake and the town are framed so judiciously that Nouvel might have spent months in a balloon making sketches. Though continuous

shoebox proportions, the form preferred by the American acoustician Russell Johnson of Artec, who earlier worked on Birmingham's acclaimed Symphony Hall. He believes that the shoebox form of 19th-century halls such as the Musikvereinsaal in Vienna and the Tonhalle in Zurich are among the world's best.

Nouvel explains: "The hall has to provide an outstanding acoustic for many different kinds of music, ranging from Gregorian chant to Beethoven and Berlioz." To achieve the necessary variations, the hall is of cathedral loftiness, surrounded by four tiers of balconies. As in Birmingham, a large suspended wooden canopy can be raised or lowered to

provide the perfect pitch for Mozart or Haydn. The walls are lined with 24,000 perforated tiles (of five patterns) and achieve the maximum diffusion of sound. These are placed on bowed doors which can be opened to reveal a soaring reverberance chamber on either side of the auditorium, which allows reverberation times to be increased without damaging the clarity of the sound.

Typically, Nouvel has made the chamber a glowing blood red cave, crossed by the gangways leading to the balconies. On either side are velvet curtains that can be run up on wires to increase absorption.

Nouvel originally conceived a richly coloured auditorium

becoming "deep, deep blue" towards the back of the hall. Conductors had misgivings about the darkness of the colour and when the white plaster tiles were in place, Nouvel decided he liked the white so much he would keep it. "My opera house at Lyons is all black so I have designed the two extremes," laughs Nouvel.

"The overall level of lighting is soft. 'Like candlelight,'" says Nouvel, but drama was provided by Ashkenazy's opening concert by a rush of sudden waves of brighter light rippling through the auditorium.

Nouvel may be a star but he has had to fight for every commission: "I am the world champion of lost competitions," he says disarmingly. His appearance, it has to be admitted, is rather terrifying at first — his powerful physique and shaven head look made for the wrestling ring — but he is a gentle giant.

The message every would-be client can draw from his triumph in Lucerne is that he not only has a vision for the future, but gives personal attention to every aspect of the design for a building, achieving superb standards of detail and finish.

One year later

I shall be wearing ear-muffs while you read this, hopefully proof against the mass groan-in that is likely to accompany any more words on the subject of Diana, Princess of Wales. But desist a moment, for this afterthought has repercussions far beyond a single anniversary. What, I would like to know, was the BBC's considered judgment about this overblown event?

There has been concern that the merger of BBC television and radio news would produce a homogenous product. There would be a BBC news agenda, reflecting a set of BBC values. There is evidence from the radio output on Sunday and Monday that humble sub-editors, those who actually put the words together, may be

RADIO

our best protection against such uniformity. But they are no defence against uncertainty.

Early in the Diana fest, on Sunday, a most interesting interview was carried on Radio 5 Live. A reporter positioned outside Kensington Palace spoke to a man who had come to pay homage. This man said he was embarrassed by the small number of people present. He had been there the previous day and found almost no one there. So he had returned on Sunday and still found fewer people than he expected.

I thought this interview was by far the most revealing of the weekend. It seemed to support what I have long suspected, that the response to Diana's death was only held together by its mass.

Yet I did not hear that interview again. It appears to have been dropped. Within a couple of hours, news bulletins were beginning, in Tom Wolfe's phrase, to identify the correct emotion, albeit at first with a distinct lack of confidence. One bulletin began with the absurdly imprecise word "many", as in: Many people have been marking the anniversary. How many is many?

At luncheon on Sunday, *The World This Weekend* (Radio 4) showed itself to be much bolder, but no more precise: Thousands of people had been marking the anniversary. This sounded impressive, until you took account of the fact that the thousands constituted a nationwide count, in a country of 56 million people.

John Birt was one of the originators of the famed mission to explain which he saw, and presumably still sees, as the BBC's principal news role. BBC Radio at the weekend signally failed to explain to me whether this anniversary actually meant anything to most people in this country.

PETER BARNARD

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FROM TOMORROW

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"I LAUGHED and CRIED at this movie... deeply touching"
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"It grew out of Lucerne's summer music festival"

glass is used at ground level, higher up Nouvel introduces huge picture windows, some vertical, some horizontal, filled with large sheets of frameless glass. He has also had the nice idea of engraving the names of the sponsors (who are legion) on the glass.

The final flight leading to the top level narrows, making the vast extent of the outdoor terrace a breathtaking surprise. Thanks to the huge overhang of the roof you can be cool on a hot day or sheltered from a heavy downpour. The underside of the roof reads as white during the day, picking up the reflections of the constantly moving water on the lake. As night falls, it turns mysteriously to black. The most exciting moment is at dusk when the foyers and terrace are thronged with concertgoers who become a spectacle in themselves. There is no external floodlighting. Instead the building glows from within, lit by a firmament of pinprick lights with the occasional glimpse of a glass lift whistling up or down.

The concert hall within is of

DAVID LELAND FILM
The Land Girls

Catherine McCormack Rachel Weiss Anna Friel and Steven Mackintosh

STARTS TOMORROW

WARNER WEST END VIRGIN HAYMARKET VIRGIN FULHAM
ODEON ODEON

AND AT SELECTED CINEMAS AROUND THE COUNTRY

LISTINGS Barenboim at the Proms

RECOMMENDED TODAY Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON BBC PROMS: The Chicago Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Daniel Barenboim gives the first of its two Proms performances tonight with a major new work by Harrison Birtwistle followed by Mahler's gargantuan Fifth Symphony. Albert Hall (0171-989 8212). Tonight, 7.30pm. £



Diana Rigg gets to grips with Racine's Phedre

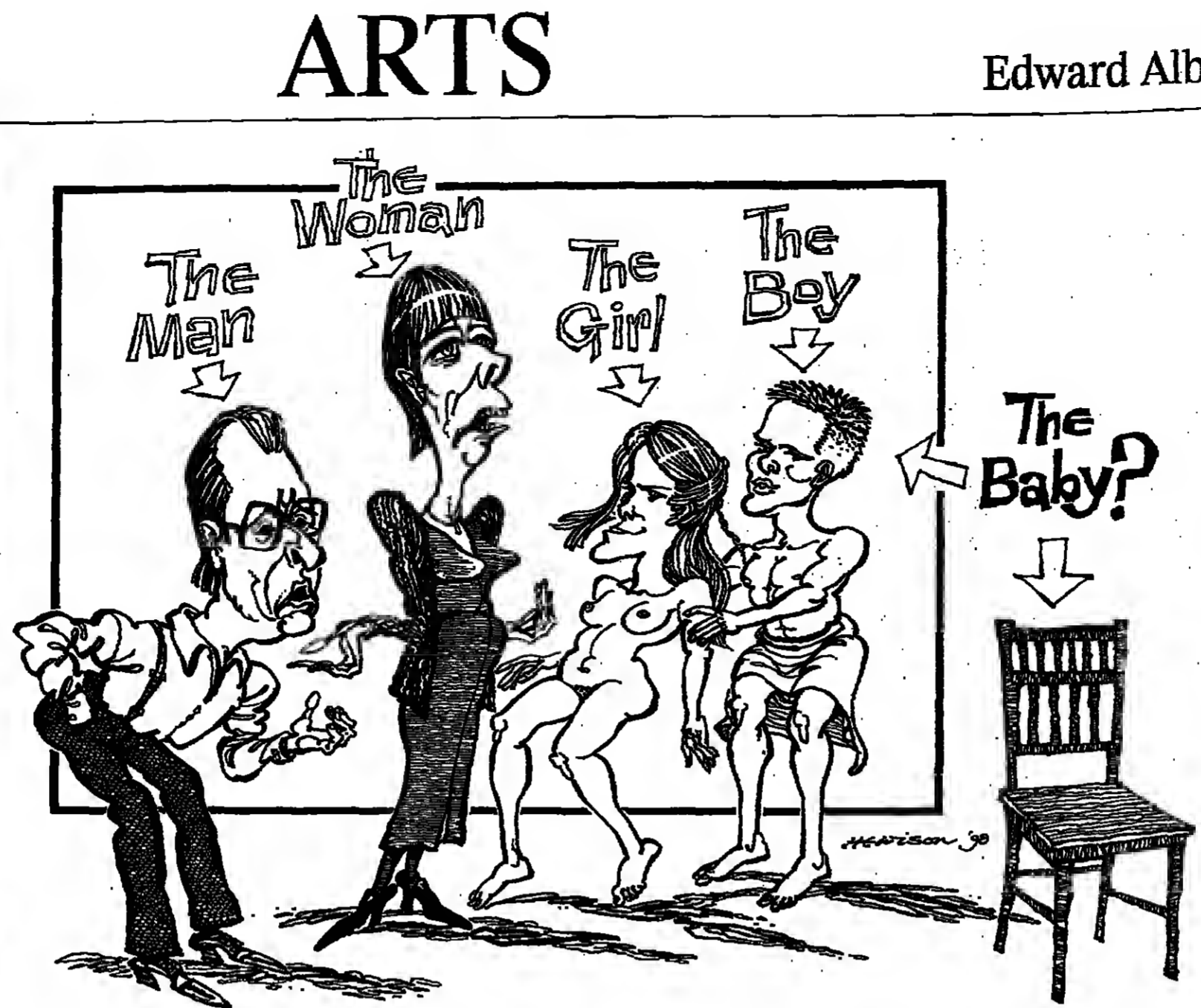
LA BOMBE: The British Youth Opera arrives at the South Bank with the first of three fully staged performances of Puccini's tragedy. Queen Elizabeth Hall (0171-989 4922). Tonight, 7.30pm. £

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London House full, returns only Some seats available Seats at all prices

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

Geoff Brown's choice of the latest movies THE HORSE WHISPERER (PG): Increasingly famous adaptation of Nicholas Evans' best seller about a healer of damaged horses and a smart New Yorker. Robert Redford directs and stars with Kristin Scott Thomas.



More unhappy families: Alan Howard, Frances de la Tour, Zoe Waites and Rupert Penry-Jones in Edward Albee's The Play About the Baby

So who wants children?

Somewhere in the American academic jungle a PhD student is probably writing a thesis with the sort of smart-arse title fashionable these days: "Death Rattles in the Cradle: the semiotics of infancy in the work of Edward Albee". This will note that the younger couple in Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? got wed because of a phantom pregnancy and that the older sustain a faltering marriage by pretending they have a child.

Well, there are lively moments, and not just when Zoe Waites's Girl and Rupert Penry-Jones's Boy guilelessly strip naked and gleefully chase each other across the stage. Albee has always had a gift for observation and description, and when Boy recalls a violent confrontation with some brutal gypsies or his first meeting with Girl, he holds your attention. Alan Howard's fake-generous Man and Frances de la Tour's wonderfully wry, dry Woman contrive to be entertaining even when they go off on verbal tangents. But this is Allegoria, where it's the message that really matters.

that PhD thesis hanging along. But my own feeling is that Man and Woman represent the coming of age and disillusionment. They "take away" the baby in the sense of ruining a young couple's innocent self-belief and make them see that their darling kid might as well be an empty shawl. If director Howard Davies had performed Albee's optional ending - a vast, demanding infant crawl across, totally ignored by Boy and Girl - this would be clearer still. Childhood is a disaster, and so is parenthood. Albee may have hit 70 but, no, he does not forget.

Loss and the need to fill the void has been one of the most prevalent dramatic themes in the Fringe's quality drama programme. Almost a year to the day after a global show of mourning, it seems all the more poignant. Peter Tinniswood's The Last Obit (Pleasance) presents a brittle portrait of Millicent, a woman out of time, whose purpose in life is to write obituaries for the newspaper, but who is constantly looking for something long since passed to be resurrected.

Three Tall Women: he was the adopted son of a cold, rejecting mother. And now there will have to be a new chapter. Albee's The Play About the Baby, currently getting its world premiere (sponsored by A1&T) at the Almeida, involves a sweet, if callow, young couple who have just had a child. Enter an older couple who, after chatting of this and that and affably asking the audience its opinion of this, that and the other, mildly declare that they have come to "take away" the baby. And in a strange way, they do just that.

Yellow Rabbits Death In New Orleans (Traverse), which finds Calgary anthropologist Brenda inheriting her dead lover's house in America's woodoo capital. She and her team of feckless sidekicks uproot themselves without thinking, each in their own way desperately seeking something. But some kind of spiritual cure-all is as elusive as ever.

After observing how poorly parents and progeny get on in some of his other plays, the thesis will make tactful references to the septuagenarian dramatist's background as he obliquely revealed it in his recent

acters are called Girl, Boy, Woman and Man, and exist not in some conventional living room, but on a bare stage amid tall, mellow-brick walls. Though the dress and accents are modern English, we are presumably observing that part of the world which theatrical cartographers know as "Allegoria" or "Symbol Comedy". Nothing is to be taken literally, including the ending. So what does it all mean? And is it worth disentangling?

Death and New Orleans were made for each other in John Murrell's play, fused throughout with sensuous symbolic gestures. Denise Clarke captures all Brenda's frustrated yearning, but even she eventually has to leave. Life, it seems, is elsewhere. As always.

THE PLAY ABOUT THE BABY: British premiere of Edward Albee's play about the mysterious connections between four people. Frances de la Tour and Alan Howard hood the cast in Howard Davies's production. Almeida, N1 (0171-259 4404).

THE TRIAL: Anthony Booth's 40-minute play for an all-women cast, some way after Nalka. Phoenix, N1 (0171-351 2876). Until September 12.

THE REAL HOWARD SPITZ (PG): Would-be wacky romantic comedy from the Fringe. With Neil Gaiman and Amanda Donohoe.

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OPERA
A right Royal mess

OPERA: Rodney Milnes argues that the Royal Opera's fine performing standards deserve better management. Plus (right) Mid Wales Opera reviewed

ARTS

PROMS
Los Angeles triumph

Dump the suits, save the show

There are two Royal Operas. There's the Royal Opera proper: an orchestra, chorus, soloists and stage staff who put on shows. And there's the Royal Opera improper — its management. During the two-year period of homelessness, and especially over the past six months, we have almost lost sight of the former, while the latter has held centre stage under a pitiless spotlight of communal hostility, much of it well deserved. If this separation is not recognised, there is a real danger of both, not just the improper half, going to the wall.

The importance of the RO's residency at the Edinburgh Festival cannot be overstressed. Here was the company, once more under the leadership of one of the world's most respected musicians, Bernard Haitink, giving outstanding performances, and it was not just this old chauvinist who made comparisons between the RO's *Don Carlos* and the dim show simultaneously being performed in Salzburg. The company has also been playing *Peter Grimes* and *Masnadieri* in Finland, where audiences said they had never before heard orchestral playing and choral singing of such high standard.

Nor is that all. In the darkest initial period of homelessness, plans for which were so unhelpfully described by the then Arts Council chairman, Lord Gowrie, as a shambles — a bit rich coming from the man whose responsibility it was to ensure that they weren't — the company managed to stage two award-winning productions of superb quality: Britten's *Paul Bunyan* and *The Turn of the Screw*.

There's nothing wrong with the Royal Opera proper. In a country less shy of its achievements it would be regarded as a jewel in the crown, a pearl beyond price. The only problem is that its work needs to be seen, as its one-time chief executive Genista McIntosh put it, by more people, and perhaps by different people. She didn't last long.

No need to re-rehearse the tortured, tortuous management changes over the past three years. It is enough to say that it was the cack-handed PR handling of McIntosh's departure that led directly first to the Kaufman committee hearings, then to the Eyre report. Together they made public truths that the ROH's supporters knew well but

had tactfully kept quiet about. The previous Government's policy had led to cuts in public funding, and to steep rises in seat prices, well above those of comparable European capitals — and hence to a comparative limitation of audiences. The corporate supporters filled the expensive seats, the hardcore fans the cheap ones, and the general public whom subsidy is supposed to benefit hardly got a look in. This is the only approach that can justifiably be aimed at the old Sainsbury-Stirling-Isaacs regimes, though it's hard to know what else they could have done.

So here was the anomaly: what seemed like a huge subsidy, but was in fact between a third and half of what comparable European houses receive, going to pay for the pleasures of the rich and the fanatical. It's an image that commentators and the public at large have seized upon and will not let go.

At the same time both Kaufman and Eyre criticised the relationship between the ROH and the Arts Council of England, always tricky and never more so than when the same people seemed to be on both sides of the table. In general the ACE was accused of being too soft on the ROH, and the ROH of arrogantly considering itself a special case, always ready to appeal over the ACE's head, to whomsoever it could noble in the corridors of power. Further odium.

In that context, the recent leak of its appeal directly to Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, for a doubling of subsidy to run the new theatre was a public relations disaster of epic proportions, arousing further hostility in all quarters, even basically sympathetic ones. The fact that it was a perfectly reasonable request is irrelevant. The management has now talked itself into a situation where it is going to be virtually impossible for anyone to fund it at all, let alone adequately, and we may find ourselves in a year's time with a wonderful new building and absolutely nothing to put in it.

Most worrying of all is the attitude of the rump of the ACE, worried (quite rightly) about its own future and stung by criticisms of its previous softness. It is now playing tough, privately suggesting to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra that it keep itself "free" from the end of next year, with the obvious implication that it will be forced into a relationship with the ROH similar to that of the London Philharmonic with Glyndebourne. Exit the ROH Orchestra, built up over half a century into a world-class instrument, exit Haitink, exit the Royal Opera as we know it. All for what on paper looks like a neat economy but would save nothing.

What is to be done? For a start, the nonentities surviving at the

'Covent Garden has gone from PR disaster to disaster'



An award-winning staging mounted by the Royal Opera while "in exile": Joan Rodgers and Edward Burrows in *The Turn of the Screw*

ACE need their knuckles rapped, for contemplating what can only be seen as an act of petty, muscle-flexing spite. As the ROH management lurches from one PR disaster to the next there surely has to be a clear-out. A chain of management stretching back to Lord Chiddingfold has to be broken if any degree of public confidence is to be restored. But who is to do it? Poor Chris

Smith, recently described by Ken Livingstone with delicious malevolence as "a good socialist", understandably wants to keep a low profile. But he has to recognise a political dimension. The Royal Opera proper is a Good Thing. It deserves to be seen and appreciated by the public. But there is no magic wand rendering London different from any other European capital — opera has to be paid for.

No one (well, not I, for one) is going to put up with the old "mixed-economy" structure in the new ROH, an us-and-them division of audiences. Public opinion will no longer tolerate subsidising the few. With careful planning Smith could engineer a massive PR coup in giving the Royal Opera back to the people of this country — if, by this time next year, there is anything left to give. Will he?

Weaving Welsh magic

If Mid Wales Opera looks comparatively healthy while so much of the operatic world teeters on a knife edge, it could have something to do with supply and demand. Rodney Milnes writes. Over ten years the company has built up a warm relationship with audiences; its ten-day seasons in the admittedly small (500 seats) Theatr Hafren are always sold out, and its Welsh tours well supported. This year it has been given money by the English Arts Council to extend its tour of a new *Magic Flute* across the border, a nice vote of confidence, and its new *Turandot* will play at the North Wales Theatr in Llandudno on Sunday.

Given the variety of touring venues, Christopher Newell's *Flute* production is simple to a thoroughly virtuous fault: John Wallbank's set is a series of moving panels, with Rosa Diaz's dizzy costumes — the Queen's Ladies are Mae West in triplicate — doing the work. There

Magic Flute/Turandot Newtown, Powys

is one novelty: Stephen Chance's translation of the dialogue into iambic pentameters, which helps the sense of narrative to end.

As Tamino and Pamina, Declan Kelly and Alla Kravchuk look and behave like naive teenagers but, with the aid of costume changes, grow up in the course of the action. Michael Gunney's Monostatos, plainly terrified of sex, is extremely funny, and Keel Watson's genial Papageno risks moments of Beckett-like despair and carries them off triumphantly. The excellent Turkish conductor Cem Mansur drew spirited playing from the Birmingham Conservatoire Orchestra.

Turandot is a tougher nut for young players, and Keith Darlington wisely led his charges with care rather than abandon, though he let good, raucous stage brass off the leash to spectacular effect. Much was made of not playing Alfano's ending: the performance ended at Liu's death, followed by about 20 seconds of stunned silence. Quite right too: this opera, conceived at the start of our troubled century, still shows no sign of ending as that century draws nervously to a close. But it does rather make Liu the protagonist — and Susan Gritton sang the role with heartbreaking eloquence, which is tough on the *Turandot*: Elizabeth Byrne has the stamina and the steely tone, and could make the words work harder for her. Geraint Dodd was a musical, tireless Calaf, and delivered an absolutely spitting optional top C — well, if you've got it, flaunt it.

Within properly severe designs by Conor Murphy the producer Stephen Medcalf made full use of the theatre's aisles and balconies. It was all highly audacious, highly involving, which is what MWO audiences have come to expect.

West Coast dazzlers

I must be careful what I say. The John Adams work receiving its London premiere on Tuesday night owes its inspiration, in part, to the late Nicolas Slonimsky and his *Lexicon of Musical Invective* — a catalogue of colourful critical misjudgments throughout the ages. But it is another tome of Slon-



Esa-Pekka Salonen: captured the dark Sibelius undertow

Here a trill on a clarinet or a ripple on a harp conjures a world of meaning, and Salonen drew an exquisitely nuanced account from his players. The mezzo soloist, Loraine Hunt, responded with immaculately weighted lines which, especially in the poignant first and last songs, made the wayfarer's lovesick grief well-nigh unbearable.

The second half was occupied by the *Four Lemminkäinen Legends* of Salonen's compatriot Sibelius, and very welcome too was the opportunity to hear the celebrated *Swan of Tuonela* in context (it forms the third of the legends). If the ostinati of the first and last movements recalled Adams, there was Mahlerian economy

also in Sibelius's characteristically fluttering flutes or the plangent cor anglais solo of the swan. But there was passion as well, rising in the first legend, *Lemminkäinen and the Maidens of Saari* — in which the hero elopes with his lover on a sleigh — to a frenzy worthy of Tchaikovsky (teaching the end of his life as Sibelius was launching his career, but still a potentially influential force). Ultimately this is quintessential Sibelius, however, and Salonen perfectly captured the dark, brooding undertow that was to colour the great symphonic cycle in the years to come.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Finns muted in requiem

Hardly an orchestral showpiece, *Ein deutsches Requiem* is not the kind of work in which such a virtuosic band as the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra might have been expected to debut at the Edinburgh Festival.

True, much of the dusky atmosphere in Brahms's humanitarian masterpiece depends on the orchestral contribution, but usually it is the chorus that makes the biggest impression. Here there was another focal point altogether: the casting of Karita Mattila and Bryn Terfel as soloists made this the starriest of performances, and almost inevitably they stole the show.

It goes without saying that the orchestra, which its principal conductor Jukka-Pekka Saraste has honed considerably over recent years, made a warm contribution. This is a responsive ensemble, and even if the playing was not always as seamless as it might have been, the mood was always right, from a darkly meditative opening to a serene close. The strings sounded at their velvety best in the peaceful waltz of the fourth movement.

Saraste is manifestly a conductor with a feel for long-term drama, but not all of his gambles paid off here in the Usher Hall. The slow tempo he adopted proved too risky for the Edinburgh Festival Chorus. Ironically, given that this is the sort of piece which finds amateur choirs on firm ground, some of that ground

was a little too firm, too unsubtle, the bushied, sustained magic which Saraste sought in the quiet parts of the funeral march was missing. The first fugue was burdened with too much religious respectability, but things improved and towards the end Saraste galvanised his forces into realising all the contrapuntal drama.

Mattila, whose appearances in both the Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra concerts are capping glorious opera performances at Edinburgh this year, made the soprano solo the emotional heart of the work.

She has a matchless way of floating rich, creamy lines, of filling a hall with her big voice yet creating a sense of intimacy. Here she lavished the same care she brings to Brahms's *Lieder* on the tender phrases.

Breaking his recent regrettable habit of cancelling Edinburgh performances, Terfel won the audience over in unfeathered, heartfelt singing. With the stage presence of an old prophet and directly communicative German, he supplied the tension that had not always been achieved elsewhere.

JOHN ALLISON

NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Impressive new young lovers

<p>OPERA</p> <p>BELLINI I Capuleti e i Montecchi Mei/Kasorova/Vargas/ Munich Radio Orch/ R. Abbado RCA 09026 68899 2 (3 CDs) *** £29.99 RCA's version of Bellini's <i>Romeo</i> opera faces considerable competition from Muti's account on EM1. Everyone was in top form: Baltas and Gruberova as the lovers, Howell and Tomlinson as the basses, plus Muti himself breathing fire into the piece.</p> <p>RCA was all 14 years ago. RCA scores on sound quality and on having by far the better Tebaldi in Ramon Vargas. And it generously includes on a separate disc the whole of the alternative ending composed by Vaccai.</p> <p>Eva Mei's Giulietta marks her out as a real Bellinian, the voice limpid and true. Her opening aria, <i>Oh quante volte</i>, carries all the palpitations of love that made it a Victorian salon favourite. Vesselina Kasarova's <i>Romeo</i> is more variable, beginning too boomily to make her a credible teenager. But the two ladies blend beguilingly together in those soprano-mezzo duets recalling <i>Norma</i>. And Kasarova shows her considerable strengths in Act II. The basses, Umberto Ciunmo and Simone Alberghini, are only so-so.</p> <p>Roberto Abbado, taking a more reflective approach than</p>	<p>ORCHESTRAL</p> <p>BRUCKNER Symphonies Nos 8 & 0 NSO of Ireland/Tintner Naxos 8.554215-16 (2 CDs) *** £9.99 THE Austrian conductor Georg Tintner is now in his eighties but you could be forgiven for not having heard of him until recently. After leaving Vienna in 1938, he forged a career in New Zealand, Australia, South Africa and Canada (with a brief spell at Sadler's Wells in London), and it is only now that Naxos has given him a Bruckner cycle that he is becoming talked about in this country too.</p> <p>Deservedly so, for his Bruckner series is interpretatively in the first league, even if its recorded sound quality is not. For the mighty Eighth, Tintner adopts, unusually, the 1887 version in Nowak's edition (justifying his decision in his own highly informative notes) and it may be that the "primitive spontaneity" he identifies in Bruckner's original version is partly responsible for that quality. But it is undoubtedly exacerbated by the raw sound made by the National Symphony Orchestra of Ireland and the harsh, brightly lit recording.</p> <p>Majestic, surely paced conducting, however, from Tintner, who also makes a strong case for the early symphony, "No 0", suppressed by Bruckner.</p> <p>BARRY MILLINGTON</p>	<p>VOCAL</p> <p>SCHUMANN Myrten Banse/Bär EMI CDC 5 56579 2 *** £15.99 HERE are Juliane Banse and Olaf Bär as Clara and Robert Schumann, their voices twining one around the other in the garland of songs called <i>Myrten</i> which Schumann wrote for his fiancée, and in the set of Rückert settings they composed together to celebrate Clara's 22nd birthday in 1841.</p> <p>This is inspired casting. Banse's distinctive lyric soprano, with its dusky mezzo undertones, is perfectly scaled to Bär's light baritone; both know how to "sense" the meaning of a song, and when they meet in three of the Rückert duets, the "mein und dein" of these fond ditties is perfectly recreated.</p> <p>There are, in <i>Myrten</i>'s anthology of Goethe, Rückert, Heine and Burns, moments of particularly happy pairing. With Helmut Deutsch's evocative accompanying, Banse and Bär in turn seek out the bitterness of transience so typically evoked by Heine's poetry in <i>Was will die einsame Träne</i> and <i>Du bist wie eine Blume</i>; and Bär's bluff rendering of Robert Burns's <i>Naebody</i> (<i>Nie-mana</i>) bounces off the smooth surface and long lines of Banse's <i>In the West</i>.</p> <p>HILARY FINCH</p>
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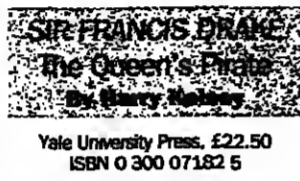
Peter Ackroyd on tarnished hero Francis Drake

When the varnish of legend is scraped from the figure of Francis Drake, there is not a great deal left which is either edifying or ennobling. He was a Devon farmboy of the 1540s and, like many of his contemporaries at a time of great social change, he was almost instantly "on the make". He was educated by his cousins, the Hawkins of Plymouth, although his real schooling took place on the high seas where his relatives were not averse to committing a little piracy.

One of his first recorded voyages was aboard a slave ship where he was instructed in the arts of trade, diplomacy and theft among the Spanish colonies of South America. Here is the first irony of a generally devious career: he and his fellow seamen were all nominally good Protestants but, as they gathered each morning to recite the Psalms and the Lord's Prayer, they were kneeling upon holds which contained the bodies of hundreds of confined Africans. Drake purported to be a righteous Lutheran in his attacks upon Spanish chapels and altars, but he was a missionary who demanded gold rather than souls.



The rout of the Armada: Drake had a minor role



Sir Francis Drake: The Queen's Pirate by Harry Kelsey

deducted under conditions of great secrecy, much to the delight of his own decadent and prevaricating nature. The details of his enterprise were altered or suppressed by English officials in order to confuse the Spanish enemy. Nevertheless, news of Drake's epic journey was "in every one's mouth". The excitement is not altogether surprising, since in

the course of his voyage Drake managed "the first circumnavigation of the world by an English commander and largely English crew". On his return to England after a three-year journey, he held a six-hour private conference with the Queen, who was eager to hear of new worlds as well as new riches.

the character of Drake himself has been obscured by a thousand colourful anecdotes. On his return from the famous circumnavigation his wealth was succeeded by rank: he made the Queen a great deal of money, and she in turn made him a knight. From that time forward he combined piracy and patriotism, with a series of attacks upon the Spanish coast. In the course of this incendiary career, he became an extreme annoyance to Philip II who had him carefully watched.

LITERATURE has made one of its occasional bounds from the books sections to the news pages in recent months with the revelations that Iain Banks and Salman Rushdie have been writing rock lyrics that will form part of their next novels. There has been no such fuss about Pagan Kennedy's new novel, *The Exes*, despite the fact that the text incorporates lyrics from the live act of the indie band of the title. But Kennedy obviously knows that anyone who takes pop lyrics

Bonds dog ooh ah band

at all seriously is clearly a fool rushing in. Her lyrics for the Exes are pure fun-loving indie thrash: B52s meet the Buzzcocks.

The point of the Exes is in the name. The band, as devised by lead guitarist Hank, is made up of people who have been out with each other. Each member must have been going steady with at least one of

the others to earn entry to the group. And they have got to be good because Hank's ambition is to make it big. Lily, Hank's ex and the Exes' vocalist, shares his ambition, but Shaz, recruited on bass, is a lapsed Good Muslim Girl whose sexuality wavers as much as her thirst for the limelight. Possibly an even looser cannon on the deck than Shaz

is highly recommended. She is a mine of information on the different ways to get dumped, and on the variety of strategies available to survive the experience. Some of the most enduring relationships in the book are those between exes: received wisdom and years of experience often tell different stories.

Gerald Kaufman on James Bond's real 'M'



Broccoli's vision was simple, but inspired: Sean Connery in *Diamonds Are Forever*, 1971

The name's Broccoli, Cubby Broccoli

Literature this isn't; but then, Cubby Broccoli's films never pretended to be art. Broccoli produced films for the mass market. But it was not products like *Safari*, *Zarak* or *Odongo* that earned this American of Italian-immigrant stock an honorary OBE and the Motion Picture Academy's Irving Thalberg Memorial Award. What makes this pedestrian autobiography a document worth reading is Broccoli's Big Idea.



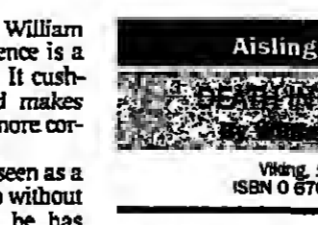
The Name's Broccoli, Cubby Broccoli by Roger Moore

percentage of the profits in favour of a cash fee. Noël Coward cabled, spurning the role of Dr No: "No... No... No... No! Thank you, love Noël". Broccoli insisted on casting the "raw and marginally unknown actor" Sean Connery as Bond, despite the releasing company's attempted veto: "NO - KEEP TRYING." Young wailed that Connery was "disaster, disaster, disaster". That was in 1962; today, two years after Broccoli's death aged 87, the series continues and, says ghost-writer Zec's introduction, "more than half of the world's population has seen a James Bond film".

30p THE TIMES
A large advertisement for the book 'The Mission That Needs No Hope' by Nicholas Royle. The cover features a close-up of a dog's face. Text includes '30p', 'THE TIMES', 'THE MISSION THAT NEEDS NO HOPE', 'Nicholas Royle', 'Simon & Schuster, £10', 'ISBN 0 684 84057 X', and 'CHANGING TIMES' at the bottom.

Net gains from the master of loss

When you travel in William Trevor country, innocence is a dangerous possession. It cushions people against reality and makes them vulnerable. And its loss is more corrosive and terrible than death.



Aisling Foster by William Trevor

no idea how much she hurts everyone she meets: her childhood friend, Albert, a simpleton who deals with his own awful background by trying to help others; Mrs Iveson, the baby's grandmother, who has sacrificed her cosy existence to move in with the son-in-law she dislikes and care for his child; and the Maids, Thaddeus's housekeeper and butler, for whom the avoidance of unpleasantness is almost a religion.

سكزا من الأهل

Reflector
A large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page. It features the word 'Reflector' at the top and a photograph of a woman's face. The text is partially obscured and difficult to read, but includes 'Sex, lies and Alfred'.

■ **STRANGE MEETING**
A nocturnal conversation

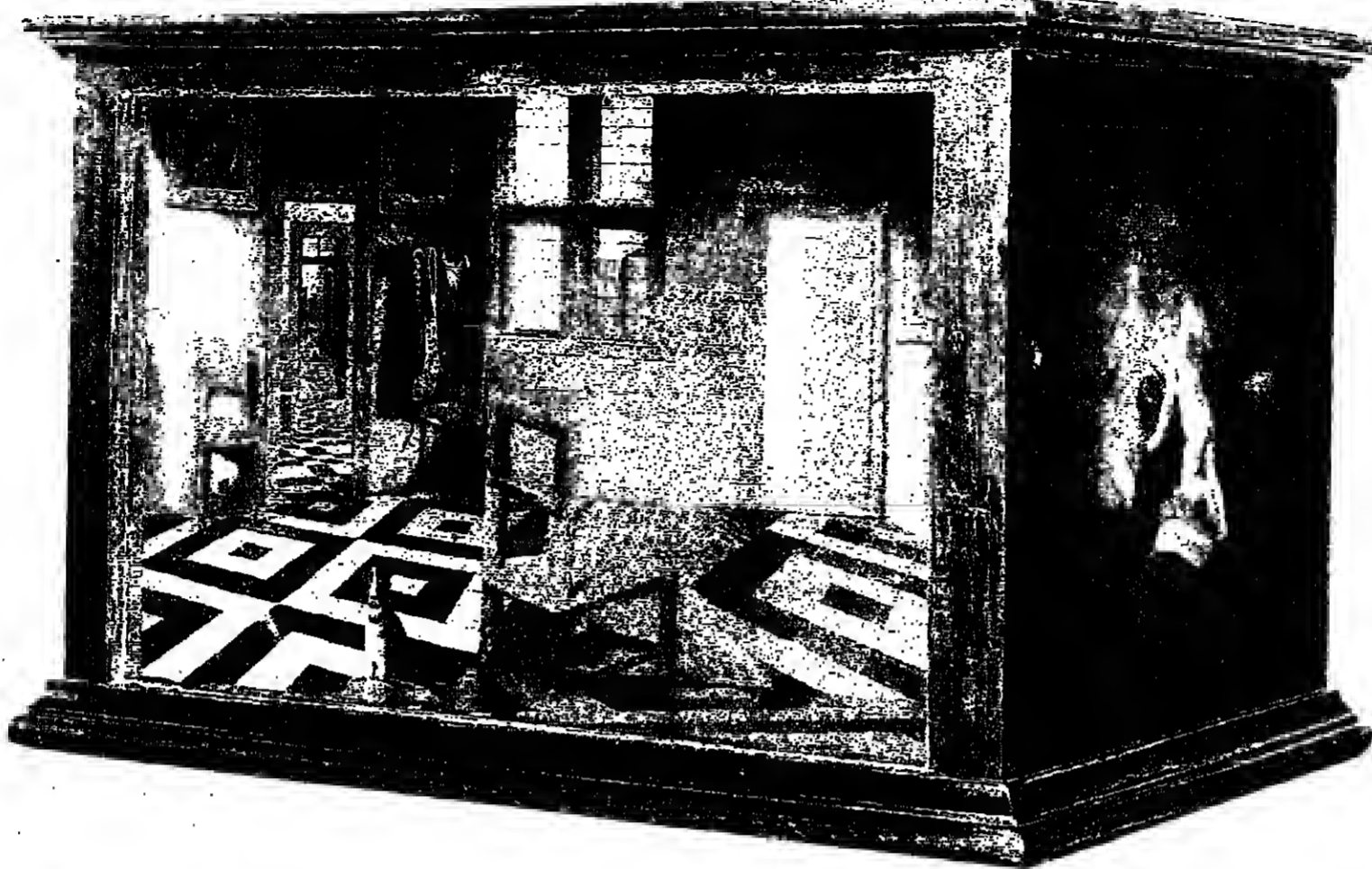
BOOKS

■ **KINSEY REVISITED**
Too human for heroism?

Reflection in a golden eye

It's all done with mirrors! Lisa Jardine finds Miller's perspective is vision anew

A perfect painting is like a mirror of nature, that deceives in a pleasurable, permissible, and praiseworthy manner," wrote the 17th-century Dutch painter Samuel van Hoogstraten. Miller's new book, *On Reflection* (published to accompany his National Gallery exhibition *Mirror Images: Jonathan Miller on Reflection*) is a brilliant exploration of the virtuoso ways in which artists through the centuries have exploited one area of visual deception — the mirror, or reflective surface. Via a selection of familiar and less familiar paintings and photographs, from Jan van Eyck to Helen Chadwick, Miller explains how the illusion works, scientifically, and why it is so perennially compelling artistically. As both a scientist and an art-lover, Jonathan Miller is intrigued by the way artists through history have deceived us with their skilful imitations of the natural world. To create the illusion of three-dimensional space, the artist has to understand the complicated ways in which the eye modifies and interprets what it sees. He then feigns reality by anticipating our response as viewer. On our side, part of the pleasure we derive from looking at a painting comes from delight at being taken in by appearances — the plane surface made to appear curved, the flat canvas which persuades us we are looking deep into a household interior. Miller's explanations of the visual phenomenon to which he draws our attention are gratifyingly clear. I finally understood that "it is factual! incorrect to insist that mirrors reflect things the wrong way round." The mirror simply reflects what is immediately before it: it is I who imagine that my reflected image has been reversed. He traces the tradition of "vanity" paintings, depicting a woman modestly absorbed by her own reflected appearance, and then comments on how closely this is related to a contrasting artistic tradition in which the virtuous female personification of "prudence" also contemplates herself in a mirror.



Hoogstraten's *A Peepshow with Views of the Interior of a Dutch House*, c.1655-60, shows how getting a little perspective opens up space within a box

Alongside such revelations, the paintings and details Miller has chosen are richly reproduced, and selected with precision to illustrate the point he is making. By repeating images, and multiplying visual fragments as a kind of marginal gloss on the text, our grasp on what it is that interests Miller about a particular example builds up in stages. At the same time, this technique actually proves some of his points: isolate the painted reflection of a window from the glass vase on which it is painted, and it loses its effect entirely. Just occasionally, Miller's enthusiasm overwhelms his argument. He uses as his most spectacular example of illusion in painting Samuel van Hoogstraten's 17th-century perspective box — a rectangular wooden peep-show which gives viewers the illusion they are looking into a complete Dutch interior from different angles. Peering through Hoogstraten's peepholes, it is true that it is simply impossible to believe that one is looking at flat paintings on the inside faces of a box. The illusions Hoogstraten creates here, however, are produced by elaborate foreshortening and perspective, rather than reflections.

Miller loves the games that can be played with mirrors. The page-headers on the left-hand pages of his book are reversed, and thus jokingly appear to "reflect" those on the right. Visual ambiguities of reflection in Miller's own photographs, at first deceive, and then, once he has explained them, amuse us. This is a book for lasting entertainment, and it sends us off to look at other paintings armed with a whole new set of insights into their interplay of creativity and illusion. Because once we pay attention to the way mirrors in paintings fool the eye, the effects are truly dizzying. *On Reflection* includes, inadvertently, a delightful example of how we all tend to get things back to front when — like Alice — we encounter the world of reflections. At one point Miller talks us lucidly through a breathtakingly beautiful pen and ink self-portrait, executed in a mirror by Albrecht Dürer. In it, Dürer's right hand is poised in the act of drawing. The unfortunate person who wrote the caption for the illustration has forgotten the mirror, and reversed Dürer's hands, stating firmly that the hand shown so meticulously is his left one and therefore "is not the hand with which he would have executed the drawing". In the end, the lesson of Miller's book is a surprising one. It is that confusions in point of view deliberately created by reflection in painting often increase the illusion of reality. The more feigned, the more convincingly realistic. Or as Samuel van Hoogstraten puts it: "Painting is the science of fooling the eye."

ON REFLECTION
By Jonathan Miller
Yale University Press, £25
ISBN 0 300 07713 0

Mirror Image: Jonathan Miller on Reflection, opens at the National Gallery on September 16.

Master storyteller: O'Brian

Death on the ocean wave

Patrick O'Brian, the prolific nautical writer, has written a gem of a maritime novel, his 19th, which his fans will be delighted to read. The illustrious Commodore, Jack Aubrey, and his intellectual "Milo" surgeon, Stephen Maturin, are in the Mediterranean in the period just after the exiled Napoleon has broken out from Elba and is rallying troops in "The Hundred Days" leading up to the Battle of Waterloo. O'Brian's novels are enlivened by their florid prose, and those with time to spare will be delving into their 19th-century dictionaries to discover the meaning of words little used or even known these days. (I do like the word "crapula" — so much more descriptive than "hangover".) This is the Navy which Nelson and his band of Brothers had shaped: a Navy which owed much to their professionalism and courage; a Navy manned by rough and ready sailors, many of whom had been press-ganged. Life at sea was harsh; routines were rigorous and discipline tough. Nevertheless, the men (and a few women) displayed incredible loyalty and fortitude when the chips were down. With about 700 ships in commission, the Royal Navy ruled the waves. However, it was a Navy that had become too complacent after famous victories at the turn of the century, and it was only after some humiliating defeats at the hands of a fledgling United States Navy, which had been seriously underrated, that the Royal Navy pulled itself together. Its efforts culminated in the famous action of 1813 in which the powerful *Chesapeake* succumbed to Shannon and thus re-established British Naval predominance and pride. It is at this stage that Aubrey takes his squadron into the Mediterranean. The main war at sea is over but corsairs are at large and merchantmen are in danger. The French Fleet is split between those with allegiance to Bonaparte and those who had declared for King Louis XVIII. Aubrey is under orders to sink those Frenchmen not inclined to join the Allies and wreck Napoleon's shipbuilding programme; but the main thread of this novel concerns a shipment of gold that the Adriatic Muslims need to pay the mercenaries required to prevent the Russian and Austrian armies joining



up with their British and Prussian Allies. Aubrey, with the support of Maturin, sets about his task with relish. I would have enjoyed the book even more had it included a chart to follow the course of Aubrey's flagship, *Surprise*, and her escorts from Gibraltar to the Adriatic and back. The period of this book coincides with the production of the original series of Admiralty Charts and I am sure that the first Hydrographer of the Navy, Alexander Dalrymple, would have approved had O'Brian included a facsimile of one of his early charts. The Commodore must surely have been disappointed by the lack of much action during his deployment as, indeed, I suspect that the readers of *The Hundred Days* will be, too. That said, O'Brian fans will revel in the development of his key characters and, no doubt, will long for the 20th novel. Finally, I note Aubrey's critical comments on some of those who sit round the Board of Admiralty table: "They suddenly swell up into creatures of enormous importance and have to be approached on hands and knees and addressed in the third person." I can assure the distinguished Commodore that those who sit round the very same table in the very same room today are not that way inclined!

Admiral Sir Jock Slater is First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff.



Master storyteller: O'Brian

Reports of Kinsey's foibles have been exaggerated, says Lesley Hall

Sex, lies and Alfred

Marking 50 years since the publication of Kinsey's pathbreaking study *Sexual Behaviour in the Human Male*, Gathorne-Hardy's biography gives us as much information about Kinsey as most of us are likely to want, though anyone seeking information about the intricacies of gall wasp research and taxonomy will probably still have to resort to James H. Jones's massive tome published last year. Gathorne-Hardy has previously written on the British nanny and sex in public schools, and possibly as a result of these voyages to the wider shores of British psychosexuality, this biography is notably more sympathetic to Kinsey than Jones's. Though there are few new facts, Gathorne-Hardy gives us a radical, often different interpretation and disputes a number of Jones's more startling assertions. Kinsey comes out of this book as "much more complicated, interesting, valuable, surprising, moving and profound" than the "warped and distorted man" to which many reviewers reduced the subject of Jones's study. Investigating sex is the one area in which a passionate interest in the subject is seen as somehow sinister and deplorable. Given that sex research in Kinsey's day was "a dubious, almost *demi-mondaine* activity, neither respectable nor really, neither respectable nor really, only someone with a burning desire to engage in this stigmatised pursuit would



Kinsey's controversial studies of sexual behaviour stormed best-seller lists across America

do so. Kinsey's passion sprang from both emotional and intellectual sources. He fell in love with his project as a scientific enterprise, generating enormous exuberance and energy capable of inspiring others. But besides desiring to advance knowledge in a little explored field, Kinsey was impelled by a wish that "no one else should suffer as he had suffered" from the malign effects on sexual development of religion, ignorance, and conventional social pressures. Gathorne-Hardy remarks on the warm sympathy that Kinsey manifested towards strangers who approached him for advice. His empathy comes through amusingly in the different slants of his *Human Male* and *Human Female* volumes. The first tended to blame wives for providing insufficient "outlets" for their husbands; in the second, men who failed to provide organs who desired to engage in this stigmatised pursuit would

SEX: THE MEASURE OF ALL THINGS
A Life of Alfred Kinsey
By Gathorne-Hardy
Corgi, £20
ISBN 1 851 9604 6

groups — especially groups with non-conventional sexual lifestyles — and his refusal to omit any sexual practice from the interview, meant that he was able to acquire information which subsequent surveys (even when not conducted by the "Blue-Kinsey Brigade" which undertook the 1994 USA Sex Survey) have been unable to elicit — as well as data about the "normal". Kinsey has undoubtedly been one victim of the recent trend of emphasising the steamy side of heroes and heroines. Does it invalidate an advance in human knowledge or a reduction in human suffering if these were the work of a fallible human being who may not have got everything right all the time and fallen into occasional error? There is hardly any human achievement which could stand, if so. Dr Lesley Hall is the Senior Assistant Archivist at the Wellcome Institute.

They talked until the dawn

The KGB began bugging the Russian poet Anna Akhmatova's room only after her unauthorised all-night conversation with her "guest from the future", the Oxford philosopher Isaiah Berlin. So posterity has been denied a verbatim record of perhaps the most extraordinary encounter in the history of 20th-century literature. Akhmatova fell in love that night with a man who was more a symbol to her than flesh and blood. She traced her subsequent falling out of favour with the Soviet authorities, as well as the beginnings of the Cold War itself, to that meeting. Berlin, a rationalist disinclined to imbue private events with such significance, would only say that he rediscovered his homeland and she her muse on that night. But whether one credits the meeting with political, literary or simply emotional significance, nobody could deny that the all-night conversation, fuelled by boiled potatoes, cigars and vodka, had all the elements of great Russian theatre. And it is in this sense of drama that Hungarian novelist György Dalos has tried to capture in *The Guest From the Future*, his detailed account of the meeting and its consequences which has been translated from German by Antony Wood. The setting for the encounter was dramatic in itself: Berlin came to Leningrad, the city of his childhood, looking for books which the besieged wartime intelligentsia had traded for food. Instead, he discovered, from a chance conversation with the celebrated Soviet critic V.N. Orlov, not only that Akhmatova was still alive, but that she was living just around the corner. Akhmatova, who was inclined to view life in mystical terms, immediately set about immortalising her encounter with the "guest from the future" in her poetry, most particularly in her great lyrical cycle *A Poem Without a Hero*. But the political backlash from the meeting with a "foreign spy" was already gathering force. A year later, Andrey Zhdanov, Stalin's cultural watchdog, denounced Akhmatova for her literary decadence, describing her as "half nun, half whore". She was ex-

truding on the scene. The first was Randolph Churchill, an acquaintance of Berlin's from Oxford who — oblivious to the danger of behaving like an undergraduate in Stalin's Soviet Union — broke up the meeting by following Berlin's name in the quad. When he returned later that evening to resume the conversation, which Dalos has divided into three acts, Berlin found another intruder: a nameless Assyriologist who quizzed him until midnight about British universities, oblivious to the wordless complicity that her presence was creating between the two main protagonists. When she left, act two of the conversation began. The couple talked about Russia, love and life, until the arrival of Lev Gumilyov, Akhmatova's son, forced them to break for an interval. The final act opened when Gumilyov went to bed, and their broad-ranging conversation about Russian literature ended only with the dawn of the late winter sun.

HEANEY READS

A UNIQUE opportunity to hear Seamus Heaney read from *Opened Ground*, his new selected poems, is being offered to Times readers. Heaney, winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1995, will be reading at London's Piccadilly Theatre at 7 pm on Sunday. This will be the author's only public appearance. By presenting a copy of this article, Times readers will receive a £5 discount on signed copies of *Opened Ground* (otherwise £20 hardback, £12.99 paperback). Tickets cost £10 and £12; proceeds go to Waterstone's charity of the year. The Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture. Phone 0177-369 1734 for tickets; or the box office of the Piccadilly Theatre in Denham Street, SW1, or open from 10 am on weekdays and from 3 pm on Sundays.

THE TIMES BOOKSHOP

SAVE £3 ON MARILYN MONROE
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CRICKET

White opens up trouble for Surrey

By IVO TENNANT
HEADINGLEY (second day of four, Surrey won toss): Surrey, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 233 runs behind Yorkshire

ON A green pitch, a gargantuan struggle. Surrey, the Britannic Assurance county championship leaders, put Yorkshire into bat on this, the second scheduled day of a highly significant match, and were not altogether pleased with the consequence. Their myriad medium-pacers did not bowl with the requisite control to account for their opponents cheaply.

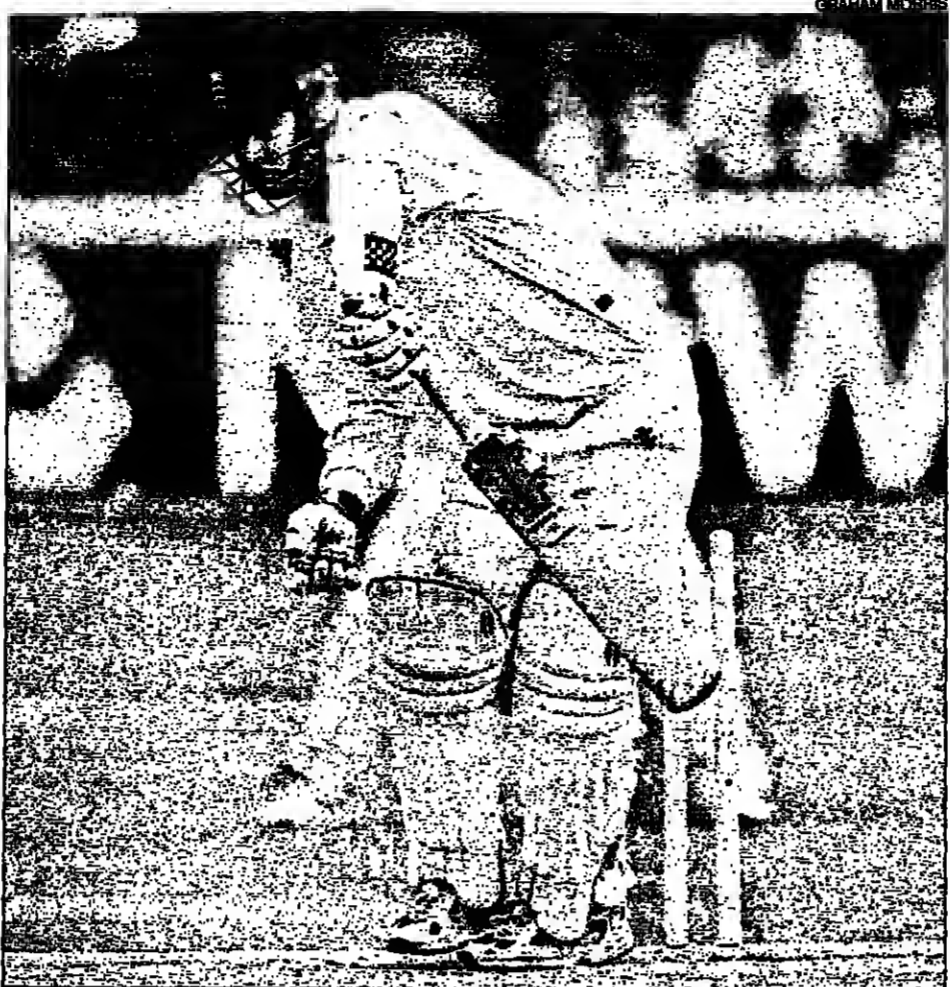
How Alec Stewart, the England captain, would have liked to have seen this kind of pitch

SCOREBOARD

Table with columns for Yorkshire and Surrey scores, batsmen, and bowlers.

YORKSHIRE: First Innings
C White c Brown b C Holloake 85
M P Murgatroyd b B Butcher 23

cut for Sri Lanka at the Oval. It was green enough for Bicknell to beat the bat two, sometimes three times an over at a lively medium pace and for Salisbury to be made twelfth man. This was a day for rotating highest scorers.



Key, the England Under-19 opener, is bowled by Irfan at Chelmsford yesterday

Pakistan seize initiative

CHELMSFORD (third day of four): Pakistan Under-19, with all second-innings wickets in hand, need 196 runs to beat England Under-19

THE series may be lost, but the noisy celebrations that greeted each England wicket yesterday indicated that Pakistan Under-19 feel pride can be restored by a victory here.

Despite conceding a first-innings lead of 64, the Pakistan seamers bowled their side back into the match and into a potentially winning position, assisted by muggy, cloudy conditions and the odd loose shot from their opponents. The last-wicket stand of 107 between Irfan Fazil and Zahid Saeed the previous evening may prove crucial.

The impatience of youth has afflicted batsmen and bowlers on both sides in this series, although the touring side's batting has been the area most exposed. Two of them must knockle down this morning if the win is to be achieved. Having bowled out England for 162 in their second innings however, Pakistan changed their batting order by opening with Humayun Farhat, the wicketkeeper, whose batting is impetuous. He and Inam-ul-Haq had put on 31 in 52 overs before bad light ended the day early.

SCOREBOARD

Table with columns for England and Pakistan scores, batsmen, and bowlers.

Contact sports move into sharper focus

All sportsmen are not created equal. Some can see better than others and, long before performance-enhancing drugs became all too routine, sportsmen were experimenting with performance-enhancing visual aids.



David Frost, of Richmond, writes to say that he reckons he might have been the first player to wear contact lenses in first-class rugby. In early October 1949, as a 20-year-old freshman at Oxford University, he was called in to make up the numbers for Richmond against the University at Illey Road.

The pioneering lens-wearers in football included Nobby Stiles

Frost remembers playing during his National Service days against a hooker who took to the field in spectacles. Pioneering lens-wearers in football included Nobby Stiles, of England's 1966 World Cup-winning team.

Early lens technology could be terrifying. Routine care involved wiping the lenses with tissue paper before they were layered in. "I was once playing for the Old Cranleighs and my Vespa had broken down on the drive and Paul Franks edged to Farhat. Giles Haywood and Richard Logan put on 49 for the ninth wicket, but only time will tell whether their partnership was productive enough.

There were others in rugby in the late Forties who were also experimenting with the lenses, among them R.J. Davidson, a Nottingham full back. Len Bowen, a Pontnewydd forward, and Peter Piper, a Blackheath centre. There is some evidence that Piper may have beaten Frost through the contact lens barrier and that he wore them for cricket, squash and swimming as well as rugby.



Mitchell: well framed

FOR THE RECORD

A large table containing various sports records and news items, including Football, National League, Squash, and Fixtures.

IN BRIEF

A table listing brief news items and sports results, including Abernethy outplays his idol, Rugby Union Chris Sheehy, and Baseball Mark McGwire.

WORD WATCHING

A collection of word games and puzzles, including 'SHEEHAN ON BRIDGE', 'KEENE ON CHESS', and 'WINNING MOVE'. It includes a bridge deal, a chess diagram, and a word search.

Mr Reliable hopes to restore his reputation

John Hopkins on the demons that trouble the European No 1

COLIN MONTGOMERIE is experiencing the truth of the saying that golf is a funny old game. One minute he is a strutting rooster; the next he is somebody's feather duster.

All is not well in the world of the player who was once a byword for steadiness and accuracy. Did you want a man to drive down a narrow, tree-lined fairway for your life?

Faldo heads to the hills to revive his form

THIS IS A small story about Nick Faldo and it will not take long in the telling, for he did not say much. True, he answered questions after a fashion for 15 minutes or so, but examination of the notebook afterwards failed to excite more than a series of intermittent and disconnected jottings.

Clarke and Gullit to be reunited

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON AND MATT DICKINSON
RUUD GULLIT, the new Newcastle United manager, made his first signing yesterday, taking Steve Clarke, the Chelsea defender, to the North East.



A troubled Montgomerie has missed the cut in three of his past five events

game wizard in the United States, brought him some solace, though Montgomerie's putting is letting him down less than he thinks and he should examine closely the other aspects of his game.

Walsall unable to stifle Goater's goal-hunger

Manchester City.....3
Walsall.....1
BY STEPHEN WOOD
MANCHESTER CITY'S early, tentative steps in the Nationwide League second division were replaced by a more positive stride at Maine Road last night.

City mull over move

THE building of a £90 million stadium for the 2002 Commonwealth Games depends on Manchester City moving from the football club's present home at Maine Road (John Goodbody writes). The 45,000-seat venue is the centrepiece of the planned "Sportcity" complex in east Manchester, details of which were announced yesterday.

TELEVISION CHOICE

It's that woman again

What Will They Think of Next? ITV, 7.30pm
Carol Vorderman keeps up her record of appearing on as many channels as possible at the same time by hosting this new weekly science series, based at the Millennium Dome.

The Shop BBC1, 8.30pm

The latest subject for that burgeoning genre, the documentary soap, is Selfridges department store in the West End of London. The six-part series opens as Selfridges is undergoing the most radical change in its 89-year history.

RADIO CHOICE

Unforgettable: Eraser Radio 4, 2.15pm

This is the middle play in a trilogy by David Naphtine that explores the nature and consequences of memory loss. At the start of Unforgettable: Eraser, Terri (Jo-Anne Horan) is leaving hospital after a car crash.

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zeb 6.45-7.00 Simon Mayo 7.00-7.15 Jo Whitey 7.15-7.30 Newswatch 7.30-7.45 Dave Pearce

RADIO 2

6.00am Alex Leitch 7.00 Sarah Kennedy 8.30 Ken Bruce 12.00 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 David Allen 8.00 Paul Jones 8.00 King of the Road 9.30 What on Earth?

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm Oldroyd and Co 4.00 Nationwide

VIRGIN RADIO

6.30am Chris Evans 9.30 Bobby Ham 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Mark Forrest 7.30 James Menni 10.00 Paul Coyte

TALK RADIO

7.00am Bill Overton and Kathy Young 9.00 Scott Chisholm 11.00 Loraine Kelly 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, Presented by Patrick Trelawny. Includes a review of paintings by Pieter de Hooch at the Duwath Picture Gallery.

RADIO 4

6.00am Today, with John Humphrys and Sue MacGregor. Includes 6.55, 7.55 Weather, 7.25, 8.25 Sports News, 7.45 Thought for the Day.

WORD-WATCHING

- Answers from page 45
AXONOST (a) In fibres, one of the intersegmental bands; the basal portion of a fin-ray.
FERRONNIERE (b) A frontal or corneal worn on the forehead.
GARROCHA (a) A good or spear used in bullfighting. The Spanish word.
ALIGOTE (c) A white grape used for wine-making in Burgundy. The wine made from this grape.
SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE
Solution: 1... Nxd2 destroys White's kingside as if 2 KxR2 Rb3-3 Kgt Rxf4-4 Kxf1 Qxc2, or 2 Rxd2 Qxc2



Perhaps it's time to swat the fly on the wall

Are the producers of docu-soaps scraping the barrel with new series such as The Estate Agents (ITV) because they have run out of other subjects, or because—having seen that you can make a rings success even out of the ruder staff in a Liverpool hotel and, more recently, out of a few sadists who roam London under God's instruction, which is why her property is sticking, so I think we can expect to be visiting Mrs Frey regularly over the coming weeks.

The narrator says as much, adopting the now standard formula of trailing next week's episode as if it were a soap opera. Will Mrs Frey sell her house? Will Pinder get sacked? Will the bid for first-time buyer Jo be accepted even though it is below the asking price? Soon all programmes will adopt this tactic. Trevor McDonald will end News At Ten with the teaser: "In our next show, will Boris Yeltsin still be in power? Will world stock markets sink further? And will Monica Lewinsky reveal further details of exactly what part that cigar played in Bill Clinton's very own Cuban Missile Crisis? Tune in tomorrow and find out, here on the unending drama we call the news."

Gimmick TV also took another step forward last night with the launch of Channel 5's much-hyped new series in the Dark, hosted by the comedian Junior Simpson. Contestants have to put make-up on each other, dress in each other's clothes, make beds, or do a spot of wallpapering (yes, yes, I'm coming to the gimmick, but they have to do it in a pitch black room. As you can imagine this would make for fairly exciting TV (at any rate, at least as exciting as a radio ventriloquist) were it not for the fact that we can watch them blundering in

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

the darkness because of something called "Beyond the Visible Spectrum" technology. This technology has apparently been developed at a cost of more than £500,000. Presumably nobody told Channel 5 that airlines give away free blind-folds on long journeys, and that if the contestants were to wear these, it would have much the same effect (although obviously the inventor of BVS technology would be slightly

out of pocket). Many viewers, of course, will not notice much difference to their normal Channel 5 reception. Those of you who live in those parts of the country which don't yet receive Channel 5 at all could just watch, say, The Generation Game with the brightness control turned very low.

Returning for their new series of Two Fat Ladies (BBC2), Jennifer Paterson and Clarissa Dickson Wright decided to cook supper for the Benedictine nuns at Kilmore Abbey in Connemara in the west of Ireland. But whereas we once noticed only their unfashionably loose tongues and loose smocks, we now also notice that they come across as a couple of women from a well-off Sussex village who have never really gotten on, but who have always feigned politeness for the sake of social civility, and who now awkwardly find themselves thrown together by the Women's Institute luncheon-cooking rota.

Their conversation is that of two women who barely know each other; you sense that they'd have to ask if they wanted to know if the other were married, or had children. They make inconsequential, polite conversation throughout their chopping and frying, but can't help letting slip the occasional barbed remark about their chef.

Table with columns for BBC1, BBC2, and CENTRAL channels, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for BBC2 and CENTRAL channels, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for CENTRAL and WESTCOUNTRY channels, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for WESTCOUNTRY and ANGLIA channels, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for ANGLIA and SATC channels, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for SATC channels, listing program titles and times.



Practice makes perfect for the four-man Jamaican bobsleigh team (8pm)



A film featuring extensive studies of the naked mole-rat (11.15pm)



Mary Stuart in a tense drama (9pm)

Table with columns for SKY 1, SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1, SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2, SKY SPORTS 1, SKY SPORTS 2, and SKY SPORTS 3, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2, SKY SPORTS 1, SKY SPORTS 2, and SKY SPORTS 3, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for SKY SPORTS 1, SKY SPORTS 2, SKY SPORTS 3, EUROSPORT, and DISNEY CHANNEL, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for DISNEY CHANNEL, FOX KIDS NETWORK, and CARTOON NETWORK, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for FOX KIDS NETWORK, CARTOON NETWORK, and BRAVO, listing program titles and times.

Table with columns for NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, THE HISTORY CHANNEL, CARLTON FOOD [CABLE], and LIVING, listing program titles and times.



CRICKET 44-45

Championship leaders forced to endure day of toil

SPORT

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 3 1998

GOLF 46

Montgomerie battles to overcome unfamiliar demons



Outstanding display earns second-round meeting with Mantilla Henman on cruise control

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN NEW YORK

THE first week of a grand-slam tournament is all about survival, but Tim Henman accomplished far more in his efficient defeat of Scott Draper at the US Open at Flushing Meadows yesterday.

Henman enjoyed no more than a strenuous workout and breezed through 6-3, 7-6, 7-6. It was a thoroughly convincing performance from the Briton. Although Draper lacks any really potent weapons, he can run riot if given an inch.

He briefly threatened in the middle of the match, when Henman, through his only lapse in concentration, was obliged to repel a couple of set points. He took the second set into a tie-break and won it comfortably — despite some haunting memories of the last tie-break he had played.

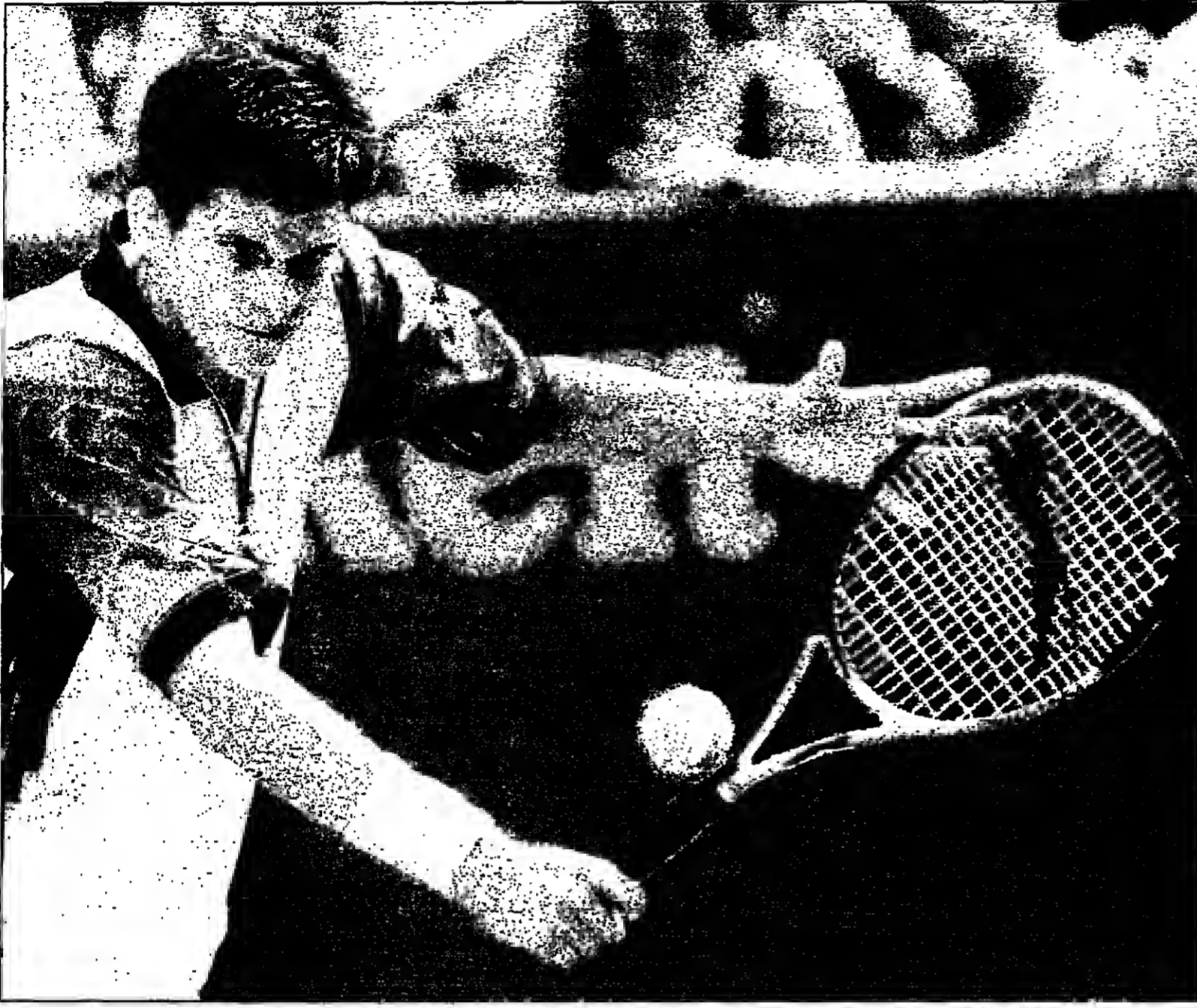
That came against Richard Krajicek in the quarter-finals at New Haven last month, where Henman held eight match points but still lost. This time, however, the drama was limited, Henman seizing the initiative courtesy of a net-cord at set-point to claim the second set.

That wobble aside, Henman, seeded No 13, carried too much artillery for an Australian who was dubbed the new Rod Laver in his youth. "Those are the times when things can suddenly swing around," Henman said of the two set points he saved. "You are into a dogfight if it goes to one set-all, so I was pleased to avoid that."

Henman's display was all the more impressive for the scene of his triumph. Played on Stadium Court Three, with its unswerving entrances and catering gangway parallel to the tramlines, the match was repeatedly interrupted by crawling trolleys and spectators late for their seats.

Such an atmosphere might once have fractured Henman's concentration; instead he shut out the distractions to keep Draper very much at arm's length.

Draper was at his most profigate early in the match and Henman promptly capitalised. The Briton's first serve,



Henman, who was in dominant form, plays a backhand volley during his victory over Draper at Flushing Meadows. Photograph Mike Segar

now a match for all but the heaviest, appears to have found a consistency that was elusive during his winter slump. To his power Henman has now added variety, and his high-kicking second serve bailed him out when he confronted those set points, its flight deceiving Draper into tame errors.

Henman will also recognise

that he can improve considerably on this showing. His chip-and-charge tactics often foundered when he rushed the chip, but Draper, himself struggling for consistency on his service, could never effectively counter Henman's weight of shot. Henman next plays Felix Mantilla, of Spain, who yesterday overcame Brett Steven, of New Zealand, 6-3, 3-6, 6-4, 7-5.

On the only previous occasion they have met, Henman beat Mantilla indoors in Vienna two months ago.

Further encouragement for Henman's assault on this title arrived when Petr Korda, seeded

No 4 and a projected fourth-round opponent, was beaten by Bernd Karbacher, a qualifier from Germany. Korda could offer no explanation for his capitulation after he ran away with the first set.

Korda said that he felt mentally tired, despite feeling fresh at the start of the match. A more plausible explanation is that Korda, who thrives on family life, has not seen his five-week-old daughter for four weeks. His wife and first child are in Florida, to where Korda, 30, will retreat before deciding whether to play full-time next year. His tame exit

was all the more disappointing for his exploits here 12 months ago, when he eliminated Pete Sampras in the fourth round. The Czech was joined on the casualty list by a pair of clay-court specialists, Alberto Berasategui and Albert Costa.

Marcelo Rios, seeded No 2, has suffered a miserable summer, which culminated last month in him dismissing his coach, Larry Stefanki. Among Rios's poor recent returns was a first-round defeat in Cincinnati by Daniel Vacek.

Rios resumed normal service here yesterday. The Chilean demolished the hapless

Vacek 6-4, 6-2, 6-3 to set up a second-round match with Giorgio Galimberti. Vacek's misery was such that he double-faulted on match point.

David Lloyd, the Great Britain Davis Cup captain, has included Miles Maclagan among his squad for the crucial tie against India at Nottingham later this month. It is due reward for his victory in the Bronx Challenger event here last month. Maclagan joins Henman, Greg Rusedski, Chris Wilkinson and Mark Broad.

California dream, page 42

Cross-border clashes set to rise above official bar

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE unauthorised games involving England's top 14 clubs and Cardiff and Swansea, the two breakaway Welsh clubs, seem set to begin on Saturday, despite the refusal by two governing bodies to supply match officials.

The clubs are confident that they will be able to employ referees of appropriate standing, a belief strengthened by the resignation from the Welsh Society of Rugby Union Referees of Peter Bolland, a premier-grade official.

The Rugby Football Union (RFU) management board will meet today to determine its policy should no compromise be found to the situation. The Welsh Rugby Union's (WRU) general committee will also be in session, with the added problem imposed by Cardiff's selection of Robert Howley, the Wales scrum half and captain, to play against Bedford at Goldington Road.

A week ago, the WRU threatened Howley with fire and brimstone if he played for his club against Sale last Friday. Howley withdrew on fitness grounds from the national seven squad, due to play in the Commonwealth Games later this month, and WRU regulations stipulate that no one should play again until ten days after that event; yet, rather than determine sanctions against the player, or either rebel club, the Welsh union will turn the problem over to the committee of five nations.

That committee, with added representation from Italy, is to meet at a Heathrow hotel on Monday and the WRU said in a statement: "It is within the framework of a united European front that all the issues that now bedevil our game should be thrashed out so that players, clubs and unions alike know exactly what is, and what is not, acceptable."

Under normal circumstances, the RFU would supply match officials for leading English games, as would its counterpart in Wales, but neither will sanction the Bedford match, nor that between Swansea and West Hartlepool, on Saturday, and have withdrawn the insurance cover

that would normally operate within the professional game, leaving the clubs involved to arrange both aspects, without which the fixtures cannot go ahead.

Doug Ash, the chief executive of the English Rugby Partnership, the body responsible for the day-to-day running of the Allied Dunbar Premiership, said that appropriate insurance cover is in place for players and officials. "The referees were never a problem," he added. "All I have tried to do is fit in with Cardiff and Swansea. I am confident we will have referees."

The fact of Bolland's resignation, together with a meeting organised last night between Cardiff, Swansea and six disaffected referees, adds strength to Ash's case. Though the RFU says that no English officials will be permitted to handle unauthorised matches, recently retired or demoted officials are

Cast of casualties: 43

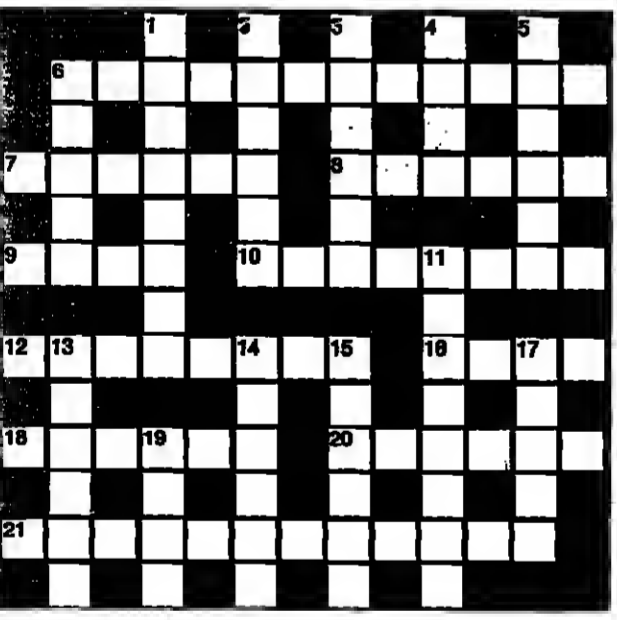
certain to be approached and that category would include recent international panel referees such as Tony Spensbury, of Somerset, and John Pearson, of Durham.

Terry Burwell, director of Twickenham Services, acknowledged the squeeze being applied to the RFU by its own clubs, on the one hand, and the International Rugby Board (IRB) on the other. "We are not able, under IRB regulations, to sanction these matches," Burwell said.

"If the Welsh position changes, then ours would, too. This is the introduction of a quasi-competition and it would be one matter of time before it became integrated into a competition which would prejudice the integrity of the Premiership."

Burwell believes the clubs' stance breaches competition regulations and the Mayfair Agreement drawn up between the RFU and the clubs last May. "We negotiated a position for 14 clubs, not 16, which would raise queries from our second-division clubs," he said.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1501

ACROSS

- 6 Gardening skill (5,7)
7 Obvious right to exploit in venton (6)
8 Flashes of light ship's radio officer (6)
9 One Zeus visited as swan (4)
10 Billboard, saving (8)
12 Transfer, surrender (4,4)
16 Egg crocus bulb (4)
18 Storage compartment (6)
20 In unfeeling way (6)
21 Feeble, insipid (behaviour) (4-3-5)

DOWN

- 1 Ely outlaw, v Conqueror (8)
2 Grab quickly (6)
3 Spanish carnival (6)
4 Taj Mahal site (4)
5 Smashed; discontinuous (6)
6 Elegance; clemency (5)
11 Reduce by a tenth (8)
13 In fear (6)
14 Romeo & Juliet city (6)
15 Fame (6)
17 Governor (5)
19 Ship's track: funeral vigil (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1500

- ACROSS: 1 Manana 5 Opened 8 Post 9 Ave Maria 10 Vouchers 12 Anti 13 Usable 15 Pierce 17 Sago 19 Turncoat 21 Motivate 23 Iraq 24 Made up 25 Exeter
DOWN: 2 Amoroso 3 Ad hoc 4 Amusement 5 Ode 6 Emanate 7 Edict 11 Supersede 14 Bromide 16 Charade 18 Aroma 20 Chime 22 Amp

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Hoddle remains unmoved by Adams's honest advice

By MATT DICKINSON

IT WOULD have been nice yesterday if Glenn Hoddle had admitted, just for once, that he had listened to his critics. Not, obviously, the battalion of media detractors whom he dismisses with such scorn, but to a critic who really mattered. Namely, Tony Adams, owner of 55 England caps.

As the pair sat together, however, and insisted that they were united behind England and St George, there was once more the disarming feeling that Hoddle remains impervious to advice, even when it comes from a man who, more than most, deserves to be heard.

The England coach, it seems, is not for turning or for listening as he prepares his team for the opening European championship qualifying match in Sweden.

While Adams did Hoddle a huge favour yesterday in talking about the "great guy" sat by his side, his written dissection of some of the coach's flaws has turned whispers of disquiet among some players into fact.

They were allegations, particularly those of treating players like children, that deserved an explanation even if, as Adams claimed, they had been sensationalised from his book.

Asked several times yesterday, though, whether he had taken on board Adams's forthright comments, Hoddle replied that "Tony would not have known half the situation. It is his just his opinion as a player."

"If I was going around worrying what players were thinking, I wouldn't be doing my job," he added later — and not once was there an acknowl-

edgement that Adams's analysis had been absorbed. One hopes that Hoddle has been more receptive in private because, despite the Football Association's desperation to get him to extend his contract to 2002, he remains on trial as an international coach — including with his own players, who feel distanced by his regime, despite Hoddle's claim yesterday that all is calm within the confines of Bisham Abbey.

"We have seen these sort of things crop up time and time again, but we just get on with life and work," he said. "A lot of people are just jumping on the negative."

Adams has been equally dismayed at the tone of the serialisation of *Addicted*, a thoroughly honest account of how he smashed down hotel doors, frequently urinated in his bed and turned up as drunk for

some matches as some players leave them. That, he said, is the real message of the book, rather than how Hoddle humiliated David Beckham in training.

"This is about my disease," he said. "Two years ago, I was dead. I didn't play football ever again. I wouldn't have been here today. I was drinking for fun."

"I had good reason to do it [the serialisation] with *The Sun* and that was for the readership. When I used to drink down the pub, they had *The Sun* on the counter. I was there with my pint of lager. If the people see my book and I sober one person up, I have won."

Honest and heartfelt motives, indeed, but it was naive of Adams if he did not realise that his criticisms of Hoddle would make the headlines and the rather contrived exercise of



Hoddle and Adams presenting a united front yesterday

putting the two together yesterday was proof enough that the FA thought that damage had been done by the book's revelations. Senior players are known to be unhappy that the preparation for such an important game has been overshadowed in such a way.

Of course, it could all be forgotten if England begin their qualification campaign with victory in Stockholm on Saturday evening and, to that end, Hoddle can count himself lucky that, in Michael Owen and Alan Shearer, he has a forward line capable of carrying him through these difficult days.

He will also need Adams at the top of his game, but the Arsenal man looked worryingly on edge yesterday, his eyes sunken with dark rings as if he had spent a restless night. "Do I seem flat? No, it is serene. It is calm. It isn't flat at all. I am completely focused and I will give my all to England as always. Nothing has changed. I try to get myself in the best mental and physical shape to do my best for Glenn, the country and the team."

"I don't want to hurt Glenn. That was never my intention. The book is a completely balanced opinion of Glenn. I have got a total respect for him. I think he's a great guy."

"Take football and everything out of the scenario, you need people like Glenn at this level. He is still picking me, so I want a healthy relationship with him. I think we are growing in our relationship and hopefully this might bring us closer." That, though, seems to be up to Hoddle.

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